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"The Bear-Leaders."
West Pier, Brighton, May 12.

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AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

CAPE TOWN, April 8.—Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—Last night the return visit of the Leonard Rayne Dramatic Company is a sure forerunner of good houses. This is for a short season of three weeks, and the opening play was "The Face at the Window." As it has never been played previously in the city, it was no surprise to find the house crowded. The following comprise the company: Messrs. Carl Lawson, Barker Seymour, John Nesbitt, H. C. Paine, Roger Graham, Horace Yeomans, Walter Weston, and Wm. Rayne, jun.; Mesdames Eva Moss, Maria O'Dowd, and Dora Nazeby. The staging was satisfactory, and the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Chas. Mercer. Mr. Wm. Rayne, jun., is stage-manager, and Mr. Cecil Thorne is in front of the house. A good season is anticipated.

The Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel.—Last night another new company put in an appearance. The fine example of roller-skating by Athos and Read is alone worth the visit; wire-walking and dancing are equally well displayed by the Sisters Macarte; Josh Dixon and his two daughters found immense favour with the packed house. Pictures follow, and no one can complain of an excellent bill of fare.

CAPE TOWN, April 15.—Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—The Rayne Dramatic Company has entered upon its second week, and good houses are the rule. "Charley's Aunt" is being staged, and next week "A Life's Revenge" will be given. The H. B. Irving Company opens here on the 28th inst. for a month's season.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel.—Austin Rudd made his first appearance and scored well, as also did Fred Poplar, who visited here some eight years ago. The Flying Banvards, in their famous aerial work; Gleeson and Houlihan, in their American novelty act, Miss Clair, Miss Ruth Davenport, Miss Ethel Hall, and Miss Kitty King all received a full measure of appreciation. The Japanese Mojis are paying a return visit, and are as good and daring as ever.

DURBAN, April 8.—Criterion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker.—Sidney James and his Royal Strolling Players are the great attraction this week. The entire company enter heart and soul into the act, which is full of fun. The top-liners next week are Hill and Ackerman.

Hall-by-the-Sea.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edgar M. Hyman.—I regret to write that the popular local manager, Mr. E. Simons, is about to sever his connection with the hall. Mr. Simons, who is taking a trip to the old country, after an absence of many years, will be greatly missed. Foremost on the bill this week is Hovelik's Russian troupe of dancers. It would be difficult to find a smarter combination than this. Gwennie Hasto was a popular "turn" on this week's programme, and Walter Emerson created roars of laughter. The Quaint Qs are starring next week.

DURBAN, April 12.—Criterion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker.—Those two clever Americans, Hill and Ackermann, scored heavily. This is one of the funniest and cleverest acts seen at this house. Aubrey Mattalieu and Leal Douglas, in a comedy playlet, "Love and Law," are a huge success. The third double act on the programme was supplied by the Maples, who excel in their eccentric dancing.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, A. C. Madore and Co.—The outstanding feature on the bill here is Wong Toy Sun. The act presented by this artiste is clever and original An American double turn by Kitto and Kitto, was also a popular item, their "gags" and cross patter proving most amusing. Nadolny, the American juggler, had a gratifying reception.

Hall by the Sea.—Managing-Director, Edgar M. Hyman.—Excellent business has been the general order this week. The Four Quaint Q's are the star attraction. Their vocal numbers are worth going a long way to hear, and we have seldom laughed so much at a turn. The Three Musical Keltons, in their instrumental specialty act, are very popular. They play everything varying from grand opera to rag-time, the latter proving most successful. Hazel Glade is a dashing comedienne and dancer, and in entirely new songs scored a decided success. The popular local manager, Mr. W. E. Simons, leaves by the mail boat on Thursday next for a well-deserved holiday in the old country. During his absence Mr. O. J. Baxter will assume the management.

JOHANNESBURG, April 7.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—The John Ridding Opera Company concluded their season on Saturday night. To-night the John Tiller Company open with the spectacular ballet, "Amsterdam."

Standard Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—The Leonard Rayne Musical Comedy Company opened last week with "A Chinese Honeymoon." The comedy was excellently produced and mounted, and the Fi-Fi of Miss Freda Godfrey was a fine performance. Miss Godfrey has been seen here in various rôles—tragic, comic, farce, and ordinary drama—and she has proved herself a very versatile little lady. The other parts were well sustained, and special mention must be made of Messrs. Lago Clifford (Hang Chow), Geoffrey Brooke (Chipee Chop), J. W. Birrell (Hi Lung), Wm. Everard (Tom Hatherton), and Edwin Adeler (Mr. Pineapple); and Mesdames Annie Leaf (the official mother-in-Law), Ruth Massina (a dainty and charming Soo-Soo), and Marjorie Clifton (Mrs. Pineapple).

The Empire.—Excellent business has been done here of late. A capital company holds the boards.

Palladium.—Business has been booming. The Eight Sunrays; the Chas. Heyn Family; Leonie de Lausanne and company; Alec Hurley; the Kerville Family; Emil Zajah and Bert Clerc; Happy Jack Gardner; Olive Lenton; Signor Coronna and Fred Karno's company in "Mr. Moses and Sons."

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, March 25.—The Little Theatre, a fine renovation of the well-known Standard, opened with "The Man on the Box," with the Denniston Bucker Comedy Company, led femininely by Miss Violet Paget. The ornamentation of the theatre is most artistic, the lighting of the most modern and complete detail, and the seating extremely comfortable. The comedy is excruciatingly funny, and every impersonator created laughs which fairly wore the audience out. Mr. Hugh Bucker was Lieutenant Warburton, and Miss Violet Paget the dramatically forceful Betty Annesley. The pathetic scenes between the bold coachman, butler and soldier and his beloved one were singularly telling. Miss Lilian Lloyd, Miss Dorothy Lidney, and Miss Temple Pigott were an excellent trio as Mrs. Conway, Nancy Warburton, and Cora. Mr. Reynolds Denniston, always a favourite, had an unsympathetic part as Colonel Annesley, but made the most of it. Mr. G. Kay Souper as a volatile journalist, one Charles Henderson, was resourceful, and the rest of a long cast was capitally filled. Floral tributes abounded for all the ladies, and Mr. Hugh Bucker, in a curtain-fall speech, on behalf of himself and his wife, thanked the audience for its remarkably hearty reception of the performance.

The Adelphi had a military furore on the stage at the inauguration here of J. M. Campbell's melodrama, "From Convent to Throne." The romantic story of love and war was brilliantly told by a loyally industrious coterie of popular artistes amid splendid scenic effects from the brush of Mr. J. S. Mann. The Danubian views were singularly good. Mr. George Cross was a romantic Lieutenant Hapsburg, materially assisted by Miss Ethel Buckley, who was the Queen's vivacious maid. These two headed the attractive characters of the play, and were thoroughly appreciated. Miss Nellie Bramley in the exacting rôle of Princess Maritza was eminently successful, and Mr. Marcus St. John gave a first-class representation of General Hapsburg. Mr. T. W. Lloyd and Mr. Ronald Riley as the traitorous Baron Streslau and the Prince of Carpathia were valuable aids to the success as murderers, traitors and knaves. Mr. Frank Crossley (Lieutenant Felsor) and Miss Pearl Smith as the precocious drummer-boy gave effective thespian service; and a long list of minor characters was honourably represented by other members of the Adelphi company.

"Puss in Boots" at Her Majesty's and "Dr. Wake's Patient" at the Palace have their shares of patrons.

The Tivoli has Miss Madge Temple now in vaudeville, after her comedy prominence in England, and she made a hit at once here as a beautifully costumed and clever vocalist. Mr. Harry Carson Clarke and Miss Margaret Dale Owen also made their vaudeville début in Australia, and their sketch, "A House Divided," was warmly received. M. Regonard and Mlle. Rosella are a capital pair of vocal purveyors, and were cheered. George Bryant, Harold Reeves, and E. McKeir were the other first-nighters in capital musical items.

MELBOURNE, April 1.—Princess's Theatre.—Sole P., George Marlow, Ltd.—There was a crowded house here on Saturday evening when the sensational melodrama, "The Monk and the Woman," entered upon its sixth week.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. E. J. Tait.—Six more nights remain for the charming production of "The Chocolate Soldier," by the new comic opera company.

Theatre Royal.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. G. H. Smith.—"Milestones" is meeting with appreciation here. Mr. Julius Knight has not given anything better in the way of character impersonation than those which he furnishes in the second and third acts—middle and old age. There are other notable characters in the cast.

King's Theatre.—L., Mr. William Anderson; B. M., Mr. G. H. Barnes.—Mr. William Anderson's latest play, "The Evil Men Do," is made up of just the ingredients which are required for a popular production, and King's Theatre audiences are not slow to recognise the fact. It is played by capable people, and set in scenes devised and painted in Mr. Rege Robins's best style.

Rickards' Opera House. — Personal Direction, Mr. Hugh D. McIntosh; B. M., Mr. Frederic Aydon.—Two English turns are added to the programme here. Miss Rosie Lloyd and Will Poluski made their first appearance on Saturday evening in the presence of an enthusiastic audience. The former is a brilliant young comedienne, who rightly upholds the reputation of her sister, Marie Lloyd, for clever work. The male newcomer is a comedian of the quaint type. Both of these artistes were accorded flattering receptions. In addition, there are several other excellent turns provided by Maxini Brothers and their clever fox terrier "Bobby"; the Patty Frank Troupe of acrobats, Staley and Birbeck, Tom Dawson, Miss Florence Durham, The Kremka Brothers, Welch and Carbasse, and Charles Zoli.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Direction, Mr. Ben J. Fuller; B. M., Mr. Tom Brennan.—Paul Gordon the invisible slack wire performer, is exciting surprise at the neatness and ease with which he does most difficult feats; an American comedy team of coloured men, Four Eras, give some amusing contributions; as also do Athas and Collins. Charles King and Virginia Thornton appear in a pleasing little playlet, "Two of a Kind," while other interesting and amusing turns are presented by a host of artistes.

Bijou Theatre.—L., Oriental Amusement Co..—The American Burlesque Company, appearing in "The Grafters," is giving some capital fun-making sketches. The work of the comedians is thoroughly relished.

West's Picture Palace.—Asta Neilsen, in the comedy, "In a Fix," has provided patrons here with much cause for laughter through the week. "A trip through the Highlands" has also been enjoyed. Numerous other instructive and comedy subjects make up a thoroughly enjoyable programme.

Miss Peggy Primrose, long so well known on the musical comedy stage, announces that in future she will adopt the professional title of Miss Peggy Fitzmaurice, under which name she will make her début in the "legitimate" as Ella in "The Seven Sisters," at the Savoy on the 14th of the present month.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

APRIL.

London.

"Vanity," play, in three acts, by Ernest Denny; Globe, April 1.
"Typhoon," play, in four acts, taken from Melchior Lengyel's "Taifun"; Haymarket, April 2.
"The Inferior Sex," comedy, in three acts, by Frank Stayton: Comedy, April 3.
"An Adventure of Pierrot," musical sketch, arranged from old French songs by Gustave Ferrari; Haymarket, April 2
"On Tour," farce, by Wilfrid Stephens; Rehearsal Theatre, April 3.
"The Phantom Burglar," comedietta, by Edward Ellis and W. Cary Duncan; Court, April 4.
"Just in Time," monologue, by George Nash; Court, April 4.
"Towsee Mongalay," Anglo-Chinese comedy, in one act, by Grahame Jones; Court, April 4.
"The Doctor," sketch, by F. C. Broadbridge; Rehearsal, April 4.
"The Girl on the Film," musical farce, by James T. Tanner, from the German of Rudolf Bernauer and Rudolf Schanzer, lyrics by Adrian Ross, music by Walter Kollo, Willy Bredschneider, and Albert Sirmay; Gaiety, April 5.
"Brother Alfred," farcical comedy, in three acts, by H. W. Westbrook and P. G. Wodehouse; Savoy, April 8.
"After Good-Night," farcical episode, in one act, by H. G. Willis; Æolian Hall, April 12.
"Find the Man," American farce, by S. V. Schell; Æolian Hall, April 12.
"Bunkum," negro burlesque, by A. H. Campbell; Rehearsal Theatre, April 11
"The Deserted Rivals," fantasy, by Christine Connell; Lyceum Club, April 14.
"Fancy Dress," comedy, in one act, by Gerald Dunn; Criterion, April 14.
"The Cap and Bells," comedy, in three acts, by Robert Vansittart; Little, April 17.
"Citizen Morot," play, in one act, by Alice Clayton Greene; Arts and Dramatic Club, April 17.
"For the Sake of Charity," farce, by Alice Clayton Greene; Arts and Dramatic Club, April 17.
"The Toast," comedy, in one act, by A. W. Davidson (rehearsal company); Clavier Hall, April 20.
"The Harbour Watch," play, in one act, by Rudyard Kipling; Royalty, April 22.
"Thompson," comedy, in three acts, by the late St. John Hankin and George Calderon; Royalty, April 22.
"Oberst Chabert," opera, in three acts, by W. von Waltershausen; Royal Opera, Covent Garden, April 24.
"The Hour and the Woman," play, by Marion Cunningham; Cosmopolis, April 25
"The Sculptor's Strad," playlet, by Miss Adelina Dinelli; Passmore Edwards' Settlement, April 26.
"The Magic Violin," playlet, by Ena May Howe; Passmore Edwards' Settlement, April 25.
"The Chaperon," farce, in three acts, by Jocelyn Brandon and Frederick Arthur (originally produced at Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, April 21, 1913); Strand, April 26.
"The Magic Flute," first production on the English opera stage of Mozart's celebrated opera; Coronet, April 28.
"The Cowboy's Revenge," drama, in four acts, by Wilson Benge and A. Rita; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, April 28.
"The Maid of Memphis," comic opera, book and lyrics by Richard Ogle, music by Oscar Eve; King's, Hammersmith, April 28.

Provinces.

"A Wife's Devotion," drama, in four acts; Alhambra, Stourbridge, April 3.
"The Good Fairy," playlet, by Harry Wall; Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, April 4.
"The Carrier Pigeon," play, in one act, by Eden Phillpotts; Royalty, Glasgow, April 7.
"The Betrayal," play, in one act, by Padraic Colum; Theatre Royal, Manchester, April 7.
"The Home-Coming," play, in one act, by Gertrude Robins; Abbey Theatre, Dublin, April 10.
"Home Rule," comedy, in one act, by Judith Wogan; Gaiety, Dublin, April 11.
"The Conynghams," comedy, in three acts, by George Paston; Repertory Theatre, Liverpool, April 14.
"The Higuwayman," comic opera, in two acts, by the late Mr. M. J. Blatchford, music by Joseph Broadbent; Theatre Royal, Halifax, April 14.
"Cinderson Skates," pantomime, in six scenes; Coliseum, Kettering, April 14.
"The Chaperon," farce, in three acts, by Jocelyn Brandon and Frederick Arthur; Devonshire Park Theatre, April 21.
"Mr. Perkins's Pension," comedy, in one act, by Stanley Killby; Gaiety, Manchester, April 21.
"Jane Clegg," play, in three acts, by St. John G. Ervine; Gaiety, Manchester, April 21.
"The Average Man," comedy, in three acts, by Kenelm Foss; Royalty, Glasgow, April 21.
"His Honeymoon," dramatic episode, by G. W. Clifton; Theatre Royal, Bury, April 21.
"Broken Faith," play, in two acts, by Misses S. Day and G. Cummins; Abbey Theatre, Dublin, April 24.
"The Dream Child," play, in one act, by Oliphant Down; Gaiety, Manchester, April 28.
"Mexican Hearts Aflame," romance of old Mexico, in four acts, by Jean Marvin; Theatre Royal, Belfast, April 28.
"His Satanic Majesty," a farcical frenzy, in one act, by A. J. Dearden; David Lewis Hostel Theatre, Liverpool, April 30.

Revivals.

"Mice and Men," play, in four acts, by Madeleine Lucette Ryley (originally produced at the Lyric, Jan. 27, 1902) (Forbes-Robertson's farewell season); Drury Lane, April 7.
"The School for Scandal," Sheridan's comedy; His Majesty's, April 12.
"Cæsar and Cleopatra," the history, in five acts, by George Bernard Shaw (Forbes-Robertson's farewell season); Drury Lane April 14.
"Julius Cæsar," Shakespeare's tragedy; Court, April 29.

The Stafford magistrates on Monday last refused an application on behalf of Mrs. Thomas, of the Playhouse, for a music licence for the theatre on Whit Sunday, in order that two sacred concerts by Jan Rudenyi, the Russian vocalist, might be given.

New Brighton has had an addition to its places of amusement. On Saturday last the well-situated Victoria Gardens, on the promenade, were opened by the Earl of Derby, and, on Monday evening, the first variety programme was given under the direction of Mr. Howard Innes, the manager, the Mayor of Wallasey (Alderman Storey) being present, along with members of the Council. Mr. Howard Innes received quite an ovation for his clever impersonations; Happy Jack Hylton, comedian and dancer, scored a success; the Violas, with their thought-reading entertainment, mystified everybody; Dorothy Welsh, possessed of a sweet soprano voice, sang several numbers with taste; some charming dancing was shown by Greta Gray; Douglas Stuart gave proof of high talents as a mimic and raconteur; Professor Norton had several smart illusions; and Albert Maiden, of musical comedy fame, also appeared. Under the direction of Mr. Arthur Davies, the Victorian Bijou Orchestra rendered several choice selections.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

ABBREVIATIONS: In order to effect a saving in space the following abbreviations are used in these columns: P. (Proprietor); P & M. (Proprietor and Manager); M. D. (Managing Director); L. & M. (Lessee and Manager); M. (Manager); G. M. (General Manager); A M. (Acting Manager); Asst. M. (Assistant Manager); R. M. (Resident Manager); B. M. (Business Manager); T. M. (Touring Manager); Mus. D (Musical Director); Mus. C. (Musical Conductor); S. (Secretary); S. & T. (Secretary and Treasurer).

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.15): Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings." Cast includes: Mr. Watson Hume, Mr. George Traill, Mr. Edward Lynton, Mr. George Greig, Mr. Milroy Cooper, Miss Madge Ross, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, Miss May Moore, Mrs. Watson Hume, Miss Evelyn Ormonde. Preceded by "The Price of Coal."

PALACE.—L., the Tivoli, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. F. Lawson Clark.—This week (twice nightly): Walter Ellis and Co., in "Little Willie"; Little Dando, eccentric comedian; Will Candlish, in comedy musical speciality; Russell Carr, ventriloquist; and pictures.

TIVOLI.—P., the Tivoli, Ltd.; M. D. & L., Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): "Visions of a Night"; May de Rowse, comedienne and dancer; Harry Russon, comedian; Pat, Olga, and Avice, vocal and instrumental Trio; Gus Fowler; Molly Lindsay and Co., in "The Washing-House Key"; Lyons Trio, in acrobatic absurdity; and pictures.

ABERTILLERY.

NEW METROPOLE THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. C. J. Seaborn and Bob Evans; Mus. D., Mr. F. Drake.—This week (twice nightly): The Dayton Family, in "Le Rendezvous"; Louise Dott, vocalist and dancer; Dora Campbell, in illustrated songs; Three Spanish Armadas, tight-wire performers; and pictures.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. A. Tilney and Sons; G. M., Mr. E. Tilney; M., Mr. E. Pryce.—This week (twice nightly): Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arab Acrobats; Des Desborough; Tom Jenkins; Rogers and Keezing; and pictures.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week: Mr. Harry Foxwell presents "Only a Mill Girl." The company includes: Mr. John Burton, Mr. Jack M'Caig, Mr. Harry C. Robinson, Mr. Rupert S. Carlton, Mr. Cecil Raymond, Mr. Edwin Clarke, Mr. Roy Gordon, Mr. A. Grant, Mr. Alex Thurston, Mr. M. Boyce, Mr. T. Henry Melton, Mr. Bertram Taylor, Mr. Tom Myers, Mr. H. Snow, Miss Daisie Cook, Miss Emmie Dorris, and Miss Vera Grafton. T. M., Mr. Rupert S. Carlton.

NEW HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—This week: Messrs. James and Herbert Jewel, in "On 'Change"; Helen Florence, vocalist; Yohle and Curry, speciality artistes; Jack Irwin, comedian; Zellini, juggler; and pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; M., Mr. Harold Wilson.—This week: Mr. George Thornton's orchestra; selections on the gramaphone; and pictures.

QUEEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. Emile Aspden.—Pictures only.

ALDERSHOT.

ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; G. M., Mr. Jack Gladwin; A. M., Mr. Percy Barrow.—This week: "Miss Hook of Holland," presented by Messrs. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company, including Messrs. Fred J. Little, Geo. Ide, Murray Ashford, James Davis, John Gerant, Olley, Comber, A. W. Bartlett, Arthur Mann, William Nixon, E. Roma, Misses Gladys Ashton, Helene Moore, Dorothy Maude, Kathleen Goslett, Peggy Lehay, and Clarice Gordon.

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; R. M., Mr. Cyril Royce; A. M., Mr. F. Bell.—This week: Fred Karno's company in "Perkins in Paris"; Croiset Trio of acrobats; Corona and Gatty Trio, in instrumental specialities; Constance Mori, in Chinese dancing and vocal scena; Signorina Maliella, soprano; Dan Booker, light comedian; and Olive Aubrey, comedienne.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

CASTLE PICTURE THEATRE.—P., Mr. J. T. Castle; G. M., Mr. John Hy. Downs; Mus. D., Miss R. Graham.—This week (twice nightly): The Westwoods, cyclists; Laurie and Elsie, vocalists and dancers; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

ARBROATH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Arthur Dean; Asst. M., Mr. Harry Fox.—This week (twice nightly): Tony Ward, in "Gems of Melody"; Jack M'Cormick, Scotch comedian; Kitty Clifford, in characters from Dickens; and pictures.

OLYMPIA.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Braggs, equilibrists; Dainty Doris, vocalist and dancer; Peter Melvin, baritone.

PAVILION.—L. & G. M., Mr. Alex. Swan.—This week (once nightly): Dare-Devil May, trick cycling; Ellie Sebrof, serio comedienne; the Danas, in "Honeymooning"; and pictures.

ASHINGTON.

MINERS' THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Metcalfe; R. M., Mr. Harry Clegg.—This week (twice nightly): The Motley Four; Percy Farrimond, singing collier; Eddie Astor, dancing juggler; pictures. Picture matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m.

PAVILION.—P., Hirst Pavilion Co.; R. M., Mr. Frank Percival; Mus. D., Miss Ethel Leslie.—This week (twice nightly): Barney and Maud, comedy duo; the Singing Organ Grinders; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Halton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Stanley Carlton presents "Only an Artist's Model." The company includes: Mr. Stanley Carlton, Mr. Edward W. Cudd, Mr. William Annersley, Mr. Will Marsh, Mr. Percy Garland, Mr. Frank Wootten, Mr. Ward Fry, Mr. Edward Lester, Mr. Charles Damer, Mr. Wilson Bartlett, Miss Leslie Cudd, Miss Ruby Lee, Miss Fanny Wellesley, Miss Rubie Maude. T. M., Mr. Stanley Carlton.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. John Boyle; Asst. M., Mr. Jesse Burslem; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Heck.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Ernest Dottridge presents Arthur White and company, in "The New Detective"; Hilda Mascott, comedienne; the Gascoignes, comedians and jugglers; George Bass, comedian; Azella Wilson, gymnast; Two Biltons, in comedy and vocalism; Sharp and Turek, vocalists and dancers; Belle Sylvia, contralto.

NEW PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Arthur Downes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Coleman.—This week (twice nightly): Seigel and Fields, in comedy, music, and eccentric dancing; pictures. Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, at 2.30.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; R. M., Mr. George Stone.—This week (twice nightly): The Royal stock company present "The Traitor." The company includes: Mr. Victor Rae, Mr. Sydney Grant, Mr. Bert Golday, Mr. Reg. E. Kendrick, Mr. C. W. Spencer, Mr Robert Sawin, Mr. Bert Arthur, Mr. R. Kelso, Miss May Irene Wright, Miss Mona Hall, Miss Kathleen Emmett, Miss Kate Saville, Miss Kathleen Stewart. Next week: "The Old Home."

TIVOLI.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill.—This week (twice nightly): May Moore Duprez, in her latest successes; Tom Gardner, entertainer; Ina Lorimer, character comedienne; Kavanaghs, jugglers; Harry Marlow, singer; Mlle. Le Burl presents her transformations; Reno, comedy cyclist; Four Musical Gardiners.

BARNSLEY.

EMPIRE.—P., the Barnsley Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; D., Mr. Will Smithson; A. M., Mr. Tom Carrick.—This week, Mr. Marcus Draper's Co. in "The Christian." The company includes Mr. Marcus Draper and Miss Gladys Purnell.

BARRY DOCK.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Arthur Carlton; M., Mr. T. E. Maddox.—This week: Illustrated songs and pictures.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. H. Samson. This week: Pictures, "Quo Vadis?"

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Egbert Lewis; A. M., Mr. Lewis A. Long; Mus. D., Mr. G. Alexander.—This week (Thursday and for three nights, and matinée, Saturday, 2): J. B. Fagan and company in "The Earth." Cast includes: Mr. Walter Hewetson, Mr. Charles Rock, Mr. J. B. Fagan, Mr. Hunter Nesbitt, Mr. Wilton Ross, Mr. Richard Hatteras, Mr. John Mason, Mr. Charles Jameson, Mr. A. M. Letchner, Mr. N. Ireland, Mr. Henry Ford, Miss Mary Grey, Miss Cybel Wynne, Miss Pauline Hague. Preceded by "Black Spot." T. M., Mr. William Albert. Next week: "Monte Cristo."

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. W. S. Pearce; M., Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Lamore, comedy entertainer; Carl Muller; Conway George, humorist; Daisy Caulder, vocalist; Charlton and his Mysteries; Sisters Carlton, duettists and dancers; Morse and Clark, musical entertainers; pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Charles Draycott.—This week (twice nightly): Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Mrs. Royston-Dene presents "The Sporting Widow"; Carlos Menard, violinist; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mrs. Royston-Dene presents "At the Stroke of 12"; Leighton and Lindford, trapezists and dancers; pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—The City Amateur Operatic Society occupy the stage here this week, and on Monday presented "Dorothy," the various characters being sustained by Mme. Mildred Nicholson, Miss Florence Nixon, Miss Dora Groose, Miss Muriel Camlen, Miss Elsie Parrott, and Messrs. T. W. Gibson, Alex Gemmell, Hugh Moat, Claude Murphy, C. Malcolm Davies, and Tom Mageean. The incidental dances were arranged by Mr. and the Misses Haines. On Tuesday evening "La Bohème" was the attraction, the leading rôles being interpreted by Miss Lily Jackson, Miss Jessie Sherrard, and Messrs. James Briggs, J. F. Newall, and J. McLean. The augmented orchestra was under the skilful direction of Mr. C. J. Brennan, Mus. D.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Warden, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden.—The attraction here is the comedy-drama, "Angel of Blue Canyon," presented by Miss Jean Marvin and Mr. Thomas Rhyde's company, who are fulfilling the third and last week of their successful engagement at this theatre. In the rôle of Kit, Miss Jean Marvin, who has become a great favourite here, achieved a distinct success; and honours were also deservedly achieved by Mr. Thomas Rhyde, whose impersonation of Judge Ananias Lovetody reflected the utmost credit on this able actor. As Steve Harland, Mr. Frank Lynne (who plays juvenile lead) is also worthy of congratulation for his finished impersonation, his acting being quite irreproachable; and Miss Lillian Rignold appeared to great advantage as Susie Smith. Mr. Ernest Dare acted with much power as the shady gambler, Val Brandon; and the rôle of Hank Bluster was in the safe hands of Mr. Mark Henry. Miss Mona Jackson appeared as Mrs. Ashcroft; and Miss Lizzie Maddocks was well suited as Samantha Prue. Other rôles were sustained by Miss May Oliver, and Messrs. Lawrence Atkins (exceedingly humorous as Hallelujah Billy), Laurence Mangan, George Toseland, etc. Mr. Harold Howell, business-manager of this company, looks after the front of the house with courtesy and efficiency. A smart farce, entitled "The Wrong House," was an attractive curtain-raiser, the various rôles being capitally sustained by Miss L. Maddocks, Miss L. Rignold, and Messrs. Laurence Atkins, Ernest Dare, and Frank Lynne. Next week: "As Your Hair Grows Whiter."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — P., Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; R. M. D., Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—Miss Cecilia Dare and company opened here on Monday with Sydney Grundy's play, "Sowing the Wind." Miss Cecilia Dare—an accomplished actress—filled the rôle of Rosamund with much acceptance, her acting being quite irreproachable; and Mr. Conrad Heywood shared the honours with his finished impersonation of Mr. Brabazon. Mr. Fred C. Ingleby deserves every credit for his able impersonation of Ned Annesley; and Mr. Ernest Lodge acquitted himself with distinction as Mr. Watkin. Miss Maud Leslie-Cudd filled the rôle of the Hon. Mrs. Fretwell admirably; and Miss Maud Florence efficiently sustained the rôle of Maud Fretwell. Other rôles were sustained by Miss Ada Band and Messrs. Edward Ling, C. Milley Doyle, Walter J. Moss, R. S. Barry, and H. Twyson. On Tuesday "A Snug Little Kingdom" was the attraction, with Miss Dare as Dolly, and during the week "She Stoops to Conquer" and "The Woman of Kronstadt" have also been performed.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is Rudinoff, royal society entertainer, whose novel and clever performance gained this talented artiste a terrific reception. Another feature of the bill is provided by the famous Fugi family of Japanese equilibrists, whose feats are quite extraordinary; and much success has also been achieved by the Rathskellar Trio, who introduce Mr. Mitchell in his piano solo, "The Rosary." Miss Dolly Harmer, character comedienne, is paying a return visit with the usual happy results; and the dancing act by the Cunards is not alone artistic but decidedly clever. Also billed are Ross Warren, comedian; Gene Crowe, the happy minstrel; the Royal Bartle Trio, in new and novel act; Guest and Newlyn, conversationalists; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction here is provided by the Motramos, whose amusing and up-to-date comedy act creates unbounded merriment, and their success has been instantaneous; Beatty and Blanche are first-class duettists; and the Almas are aptly described as lightning equilibrists and tumblers. Also billed are Fred Lloyd, comedian; Ruby Norton, comedienne; Will Sullivan, comedian and dancer; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Will White.—The vaudeville element here is sustained by Buster and Armstrong, in their amusing act, "The Actor and the Stage Hand"; and Arthur Harris, actor-vocalist.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week: Dainty Doris, comedienne and dancer. Pictures complete.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Ferris Pounds.—This week: Jack Hughes, the popular vocalist. Pictures complete.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. E. C. Jazon; G. M., Mr. J. C. Jazon.—This week: Elton and Elma, acrobatic knockabouts; Kavardos cannon ball juggler; and Jerome and Jerome, patter and burlesque boxing comedians.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. T. R. Wood.—This week: Lambert and Hands, harmonising comedy duo; and Miss Violet Leslie, vocalist.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King.—This week (once nightly, and Thursday matinée, 2.30): Mr. Alfred Gray and company in "The Amazons." Cast includes: Mr. F. B. J. Sharp, Mr. Alfred Gray, Mr. Campbell Cargill, Mr. Laurence Meade, Mr. Eric Bass, Mr. Amyas Hardy, Mr. James Clifford, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Dorothy Radcliffe, Miss Irene Clarke, Miss V. Malcolm-Barnett, Miss Muriel Locking. Preceded by "The Sergeant of Hussars." Next week: "Bunty Pulls the Strings."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; D. of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; Licensee & R. M., Mr. Frank Weston.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Leonard Willoughby presents "The Lady Slavey." The company includes: Mr. Paddy Dupres, Miss Laura Thompson, Miss Elsa Cowie, Miss Ena Cowie, Mr. W. T. Thompson, Mr. Paul Presano, Mr. J. C. Piddock, Miss Evelyn Campbell, Miss Maud Leighton, Mr. Albert Darnley, Moss Vic Charlton, T. M., Mr. Charles Cantley.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke.—This week (twice nightly): Jack and Evelyn, in their vaudeville "Quick Lunch"; the Six Ceylons, in "The Opium Fiends"; Gordon and Elgin, dancers; Maudie Vera, vocalist; Arthur Melrose, humorist and sifflеur; Archie O'Neill, one-legged dancer and vocalist; Billy Mascot, comedian and dancer; Harry Roxbury and company present "The Prince of Monte Carlo"; and pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom B. Davis; G. M., Mr. Philip Rodway; Asst. M., Mr. F. W. Smith.—The Follies give a delightful entertainment, into which several new features are introduced. The usual concerted numbers and individual items are given with a quaint charm, and Mr. Pelissier is most amusing in his efforts to write a song in rag-time, in which he is interrupted by Miss Fay Compton and Mr. Douglas Maclaren dancing the "Dandy one-step." Mr. Lewis Sydney tells his story with all his old zest, and the scene from Dickens has apparently lost none of its attraction to the audience. The tit-bit of the evening is the burlesque of the music hall, which is really a delightful travesty.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P., Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Limited; M. D., Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; A. M., Mr. Henry Johnston.—"The Glad Eye" is meeting with a capital reception, and the audiences are kept continually laughing. Mr. Richardson's Galipaux is very fine; rather good work is done by Mr. Stanley Brett, as Garton; Mr. Percy Marmont, as Maurice; Miss Constance Hyem, as Lucienne; and Miss Minnie Terry, as Suzanne. Miss Billie Sinclair is a dainty and attractive Kiki.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest.—The second week of Mr. Raynor's répertoire season opened on Monday evening with a capital performance of "A Tale of Two Cities," in which Mr. Raynor was very good as Sidney Carton, and Mr. Milton C. Curtis as Dr. Manette and Miss Ennis Lawson was very dainty as Mignon. The performance will be repeated to-day (Saturday). On Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and Wednesday matinée "Captain Swift" was given on Wednesday evening "David Garrick," and on Tuesday "The Idler."

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; Mr. T. Morton Powell; A. M., Mr. H. E. Cox.—"The King of the Gipsies" is a typical drama, abounding in exciting incidents, with a strong love interest running throughout. The villain throws suspicion of his wrongdoing on to the hero, the son of the squire, but there is the usual happy ending. Mr. Sydney Bland is a capital hero, and Miss Josephine Richards a pretty gipsy girl. Mr. Leigh Courtney is quite convincing as the villain.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. Lewis Chapman.—"The Mill Girl and the Miner" contains plenty of humour as well as excitement. Mr. Stuart Lomath is very good as Dick Raggles; and further distinctive acting is given by Mr. George Edwin Clive, Mr. Hugh Travers, Miss Carrie Tremayne, and Miss Amber Wyville.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. W. H. Bebby.—Ernie Mayne, "the simple one," is providing plenty of fun with his amusing songs and quaint get-up; Ernie Lotinga is genuinely funny in a new dramatic comedy sketch, "Blue Bottles"; the Aerial Budds are clever acrobats; a delightful entertainment at the piano is given by Leslie Harris; Jennie Johns is a vivacious comedienne; Jack Smiles dances cleverly; Tom and Neil give an eccentric boxing exhibition; and Katie Cohen sings very pleasingly.

GRAND.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. James E. Coward.—George Formby seems more amusing than ever, and his querulous voice and quaint patter cause the audience to roar with laughter; an exceptionally clever equilibristic performance is given by the Uessems; George Newburn mimics various "stars" in realistic fashion; Carter Livesey and company have an amusing sketch, "An Amateur Anarchist"; Katie Loissett has a novel pot-pourri entertainment; Edith Chantler sings admirably; Wyotti is a clever comedy juggler; and Albert Christian a good vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—P., New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; M., Mr. Ben de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Hamilton.—Jay Laurier has plenty of scope to display his abilities in a farcical sketch, "Enquire Within"; Gallette's monkeys are very well trained; Victor Kelly is a comic with original methods; the Kenna Brothers are amusing comedy acrobats; Dorris and Frances dance cleverly: Retta Rakin has a novel dance scena: Rose and Challoner temper vocalism with comic relief; and Bi-Bo-Bi performs well on the bells.

GAIETY.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—Haley's Juveniles give a very pretty vocal and dancing scena; some excellent illusions are furnished by Pertab Singh; the Three Alverettas are clever comedy acrobats; Bartholomew Girls sing and dance well; the Rurals have an attractive musical scena; smart dancing is provided by the Four Newboys; Lily Lonsdale has a good soprano voice; and Ernie Myers is a quaint comedian.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; D. of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Edna Latonne has an enthusiastic reception, and her male impersonations and rousing songs prove very popular; the Blessings give a clever equilibristic turn; a smart dancing turn is provided by the Four Blains; the Four Wagners introduce a comedy musical act; George Cristo is a smart ventriloquist; Rich Hayes, an eccentric juggler; Matt Carter and company, in "Lifty, the Lift Man," are very amusing; and Harry Harvey is a good comedian.

NEW PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr Geo. Anthony.—Pictures: Shaw and Windar; Melford Trio; and Harry Henrick.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

EDEN THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Chas. Elderton; B. M., Mr. F. Steels.—This week: Mr. Robert McDonald's Co. in "The Gay Gordons."

HIPPODROME.—L., the Standard Electric Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. W. O. Smith; R. M., Mr. H. Warren.—This week: Les Tripellos, troupe of musicians: Frank Weaver; Pearl Grey and Doyle and Gibson; and pictures.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Closed for rebuilding.

PRINCE'S.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Page; A. M., Mr. John Ersser; A. M., Mr. Albert Hargreaves; M. D., Mr. W. Haydock.—This week: Travis Greene presents "Queen of the Redskins." Cast includes: Mr. Jerrold Heather, Mr. Ellis Leigh, Mr. Vane Trevor, Mr. F. Litchfield, Mr. Edward Maples, Mr. Lionel Moore, Mr. Sam Edwards, Mr. Arthur C. Russell, Miss Clara Oakes, Miss Christine Murray, Miss Jessie Campbell, Miss Amy Maitland, Miss Hilda Shirley.

PALACE.—P. M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Arthur Burton.—This week: Albert Whelan; Edna Lyall; Jack Sheridan; the Fimans, in comedy sketch, "The Fire Station"; Arthur Slater, sifflеur; Tom Reno, eccentric comedian; Katie and Dorothy Hughes, in vocal scena; Stein Esthor Trio of comedy acrobats; and pictures.

STAR.—M. D., Messrs. Strong and Taylor.—This week: Gibson and Aspden, duettists, and pictures.

ALEXANDRA HALL.—P., the Dowry Co.—Wyse and Wyser, comedians and dancers, and pictures.

VICTORIA HALL.—M. D., Mr. John Charnley. Pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—P. & M., Mr. John Bradley.—Harry and Mutch, trombone soloists, and pictures.

EXCHANGE HALL.—L. & M. D., Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle, and Rawlinson.—The Sisters Lillian, harmonising duettists, and pictures.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—This week (once nightly): Miss Estelle Stead and Mr. Farmer Skein present: Monday, "The Taming of the Shrew"; Tuesday and Friday, "The Merchant of Venice"; Wednesday, "Hamlet"; Thursday, "Richard III."; Saturday matinée, "The Taming of the Shrew"; Saturday evening, "Romeo and Juliet." Next week: James Welch, in "Oh! I say."

GRAND THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Percy Harrop.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Frank Weathersby presents. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "The Thief"; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "The Witness for the Defence." The company includes: Mr. Roland Daniel, Mr. Alec Alves, Mr. George Delaforce, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. Chas. F. Lloyd, Mr. Reginald C. Harvey, Miss Daisy Parkinson, Mr. Ernest Cardos, Miss M. Curran, Miss Elsie Roberts, Miss Dorrie Roberts. Preceded by "The Call of Duty." Next week: "The Dancing Mistress."

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank H. Jepson.—This week (once nightly): George H. Elliott, chocolate-coloured coon; W. P. Wentley; Lynn and Leslie; Larola; Burns and Bentley, dancers; Housini's and It? jugglers; Rose Cabani, comedienne; the Aerial Smiths, trapeziets; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Stanley Carlton presents "The White Slaves of London." The company includes: Messrs. Stanley Vine, William G. Marshall, Thomas Marshall, Geoffry Broughton, R. F. Wilson, Edward Eryer, W. H. Vernon, Fred Coutts, Sidney Barnes, Dan Warden, Fred Garth, and Misses Cynthia Marshall, Florence Young, Mildred Chapman, Alice Thorne, Muriel Lawson, Annie Ross, Pauline Walker, Charlotte Bellinger, Nellie De Lacy, and Enid Wilde. T. M., Mr. Stanley Carlton. Next week: "The Still Alarm."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf Booth.—This week (twice nightly): Graham Moffat and company present "The Concealed Bed"; Harry Claff; the White Knight assisted by Miss Alice Tremayne; Ray Hartley, dancer; Sergeant Brennan, diabolist; Larry Lewis, comedian; Billy French, comedian and dancer; Violet Stockelle, comedienne; Magini and his violin; Bert Errol; pictures.; Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome, Bolton, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. John Tiller presents "Lively Lucerne." The company includes: Mr. James Rous, Miss May Blossom, Miss Doris Cooke, Mr. Edwin Jaye, Mr. J. J. Dallas, Mr. Leslie Cliff, Mr. Jack Tonson, Mr. Joe Tomson, Miss Elizabeth Wieland, Mr. Barney Dixon, and Mr. Gaston Morel. T. M., Mr. Wm. Amstel. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

BOOTLE.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Pennington; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Shaw.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Frank Lindo and Miss Marion Wakeford present "His Child Wife." The company includes: Frank Lindo, Stephen C. Venner, Chas. C. Cameron, John Soden, Hal Dayne, Henry Seymour, W. Somers, Sydney Dench, jun., William Irvine, Arthur Hyam, Kate Randolph, Cissy Whitefield, Helene Frances, and Marion Wakeford. T. M., Mr. Frank Lindo. Next week: Miss Ethel Van Praagh's Répertoire company.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece.—This week (twice nightly): Victor and Velma, boy athlete and Sandow girl; Josephine Langley, ventriloquist; Romanoff, violinist; La Freya, in artistic visions; Ernest H. Mills, art humorist; Dorothy Ward, musical comedy artiste; Shaun Glenville, as "Mrs. Malone"; the Three Comerfords, comedy acrobats; and pictures.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole L., The Executors of the late Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Robert Burnett presents "The Bear Leaders." The company includes: Messrs. Ian O. Will, Sidney Butt, George Goodwin, Robert Burnett, Charles Barber, Robertson Hare, Paul Smythe, J. Mitchell, H. Tripp-Edgar, Misses Ethel Russell, Janet Gillette, Frances White, Ethel Russell, Rene Vivian, Mary Burnham, and Ormonde Wynne. T. M., Miss D. Fellowes-Robinson. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45. Next week: "The Silver King." Flying matinée Thursday, "Eliza Comes to Stay."

WINTER GARDENS.—This week (Monday, Tuesday afternoon and evening, and Wednesday afternoon and evening): Harold Montague and his Vagabond Players, in original entertainment. On Thursday, Friday evening and afternoon, and Saturday afternoon and evening: The Imperial Russian ballet.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. J. Richardson.—After an absence of some years Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry, together with the New Theatre, London, company, presented here on Monday night last Paul Kester's fine costume play, "Sweet Nell of Old Drury," and seldom has a reception so hearty been accorded as that which greeted Miss Neilson and Mr. Terry and the fine company supporting them. We have nothing to add to the praise which has been lavished on Miss Neilson's conception of the famous artless orange-girl, or of Mr. Terry's finished acting as Charles II. Suffice it to say they captivated the audience, and the curtain was raised repeatedly in response to the continued applause. Standing out prominently in the big cast, and commanding special recognition, were Mr. Denis J. Hogan as the grim Lord Jeffreys, Mr. H. Hewitt as Lord Rochester, Mr. A. Kendrick as the ardent lover, Fairfax, Mr. J. Carter-Edwards as the faithful Captain Clavering, Mr. A. Williams as Percival, the needy actor, Miss Violet Farebrother as Lady Castlemaine, Miss Betty Bellairs as the Duchess of Portsmouth, and Miss Mollie Terraine as the Lady Olivia Vernon. The costumes are magnificent and the scenic effects perfect.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. Laidler; G. M., Mr. N. Hepworth; A. M., Mr. F. Yearsley.—All the elements which combine in producing thrills and sensationalism are contained in Nita Rae's capital drama, "No Mother to Guide Her," which appeals strongly to Mr. Laidler's patrons, who accorded the piece a hearty reception last Monday night. The company is Mr. H Glaze's, and the acting is of all-round merit. Mr. C. A. Baker is an excellent exponent of the Rev. Tom Pelham, and the villain. Campbell, alias Green, is effectively represented by Mr. Leonard Clarke. Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh invests the part of Bill Bounce with considerable humour. Miss Betty Seymour is interesting as Nan, around whom the story is woven. Miss Roma Pendrous as Millicent Saxby, the parson's affianced, and Miss Georgie de Lara as Julia Patterson, the lady with a past, are prominent in the representation, which is well staged.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percival Craig.—After a long absence, the great little comedian, Little Tich, has returned fresh as ever, and, if possible, funnier and more grotesque than of yore, for he keeps the audience in roars of laughter. With some assistants and a pretty stage setting Frances Letty adds interest to her well-rendered and acceptable songs. A diverting knockabout turn is contributed by the comedians Great and Good, and as a juvenile Hebrew comedian Jack Marks is precocious and amusing. A very fine musical interlude by Hands and Lorenzi wins well-merited approbation. Daisy Sloan's dainty dancing and vocalism; the dancing of Marie Kaye, comedienne; the comedy of Fred Keeton, and the pictures complete a most entertaining evening's amusement.

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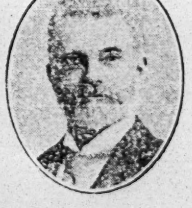

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PALACE.—L., Mr. F. Macnaghten; M., Mr. Will A. Jackson.—A feature of this week's entertainment is the finely acted dramatic sketch "The Red Prince," with the popular actor, Mr. James Willard, in the character of Bill Grimes, a burglar. Great appreciation greets the excellent comedy efforts of the Brothers Hannaway. D'Arc's marionettes give some marvellous impressions of music hall stars in a clever show. Rag-time is in evidence again, Carr's American Eight giving a very diverting exposition of the craze. Francis and Francisco are excellent in a turn of real eccentricity. Brizlee is a flute, piccolo, and piano soloist of rare merit. Ruby Emmerson is a dainty comedienne of much acceptance. There is some clever sand and "buck" dancing shown by Ruby Maybutt, and the pictures are good.

BRIDLINGTON.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—M., Mr. Charles Palmer.—This week: In the Floral Pavilion, Signor Enrico Scoma and his grand orchestra; vocalist for the week, Mr. Horace Binks, tenor. In the Grand Pavilion: Mr. Sydney James's company, "The Mexicans," in their highly successful programmes of songs, dances, and concerted items (second week of engagement). Every evening at 8. Matinées Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 3.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—M., Mr. R. C. Luxton.—This week: "The Quips and Cranks," in variety entertainment. Company includes: Miss Daisy Figaro, soprano; Miss Enid Hamilton, comedienne; Miss Lily Rennie, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Teddy Rutland, comedian; Mr. Will Learmouth, tenor; Mr. Harry Lee, comedian; and the Bijou Orchestra, under the direction of the composer and producer, Mr. Ernest Longstaff. Commencing Thursday: Herr Julian Kandt and his band. Promenade concerts twice daily.

BRIERLEY HILL.

QUEEN'S HALL.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. C. Cooper.—This week: Clown Barker and comedy animal act; Ben Jackson, in banjo tricks; and pictures.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Brighton Theatre Royal, Limited; M., Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is here with "The Importance of Being Earnest." Mr. Harold Weston gives an admirable impersonation of John Worthing; Mr. Charles Fielding is highly successful as the impulsive Algernon Moncrieffe; Miss Gladys Cunningham submits a pleasing enactment of the Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax; Miss Daisy Nunn makes a bright and winsome Cecily Cardew; Miss Florence Radcliffe presents a clever character study as Lady Bracknell; Mr. Edward Mervyn is well placed as the Rev. Canon Chasuble; and Miss Dot Seilby's Miss Prism is effectively played. The comedy is preceded by "The Call of Duty." At Thursday's special London matinée, "The Schoolmistress" was performed by the entire company from the Vaudeville Theatre.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. and M. D., Mr. Ernest Gates; G. M., Mr. Ben Court.—"The Soldier Princess" is here this week, and is superbly staged and mounted. Miss Annie Saker achieves great success as Carina; Mr. Jack Fortescue's Prince Leopold merits high praise; Mr. Charles Vane makes an excellent King; Mr. Lionel Gadsden is very effective as the Crown Prince; and the remaining characters are ably sustained.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The following are here this week: Fred Kitchen and company, in the amusing sketch, "Bungle's Luck"; Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon in a delightful musical entertainment; Herbert Clifton, vocalist; the Four Camerons, versatile entertainers; the Washer Brothers, boxing midgets; and Maude Ford, in songs and dances.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—S., Mr. A. W. Scholey.—"What Happened to Jones" is here. Mr. C. Vernon Proctor submits a spirited and diverting enactment of Jones; Mr. C. W. Carleton Crowe is excellent as Dr. Antony Goodly; Mr. Harry Turner merits high praise for his embodiment of Professor Ebenezer Goodly; Miss Harrietta Polini, as Matilda Goodly; Miss Christine Jensen, as Alvina Starlight; and Miss Amy Rudd, as Cissy, also present praiseworthy embodiments. On Thursday the entire company from the Criterion Theatre, London, gave a matinée performance of "Eliza Comes to Stay."

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. Gilbert Laye; Asst. M., Mr. Bernard Fleming.—Mr. James Welch is appearing here this week in the new farce, "Oh! I say," a full notice of which is given in another column.

COURT.—M. D., Mrs. M. Barrasford.—This week (twice nightly, and matinée Thursday, at 3): Sid Cotterell and Co. in "The Substitute"; Peggy Moy, comedienne; Alpho, ventriloquist; and pictures.

In the WINTER GARDEN Mr. Wilson James's vaudeville company, the Enterpeans, under the direction of Mr. Bert Meredith, are giving afternoon and evening performances daily.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Prince's Theatre (Bristol), Ltd.; M. D., Mrs. J. M. Chute and Mr. John Hart; R. M. and T., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; Mus. D. and S. M., Mr. G. R. Chapman.—Mr. George Edwardes' principal company is here with "Gipsy Love," the musical play being most effectively staged and dressed. The chorus is strong and tuneful, and the considerably augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Herr B. Schoenberger. Some exceptionally clever speciality dances are introduced by Miss Florence Arnold and Mr. Garnet Wilson. Mr. Lauri De Frece is amusing as Dragotin. He acts the part well, without in any way overdoing it, and though funny in a quaint style seems never to forget that he is impersonating a Roumanian noble. Mr. Leonard Mackay both acts and sings remarkably well as Iozsi, and as made up makes an imposing gipsy. Mr. Ian Colquhoun is admirably placed as the innkeeper Andor; he has a fine bass voice, and his song, "Love and Wine," is admirably rendered. Miss Blanche Tomlin plays Ilona very prettily, and she is a charming vocalist with a well-trained and flexible soprano voice. A pretty trio occurs in the second act, and in this Mr. Mackay, Mr. Colquhoun, and Miss Tomlin are heard to much advantage; Miss Avis Kelham is very pleasing as Lady Babby, and she acts, sings, and dances to perfection; Miss Daisy Burrell and Mr. William Spray do excellently as Iolan and Kajetan; and the remaining parts are all carefully taken.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Bristol Old Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Fred W. Carpenter; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin Jacobs.—There was a packed house here on Friday evening, the 2nd inst., the occasion being the farewell benefit of Mr. Henry C. Alty, the popular Resident-Manager here for the last nine years. Artistes from all the local places of amusement, and others well known to Bristol audiences, kindly gave their services, thus enabling Mr. Alty to provide an exceptionally attractive programme. Alderman C. A. Hayes, Mr. Horace Livermore, and Mr. Fred W. Carpenter made congratulatory speeches on Mr. Alty's appointment as Manager of the New Princes Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, to which Mr. Alty suitably replied, and various presentations were made to him. The artistes appearing in their admirable turns and specialities were:—George Scully; American Rag-timers; Sybil Marcelle, Maud Courtney and "Mr. C." Bernard and Weston, Mac Stuart, Rosie Reys, The Johnstons, Martin Adeson, Dorothy Leigh, Hersleb Brothers, United Cleffs, Stern and Laurier, Burnaby and Newcombe, Texas Tommy Dancers, Constance Glenabyn, H. C. Francombe, David Llewellyn, Denise Irving, Bristol Glee Singers, Willie Reid, Lilian Rose, and Baby Edna Maude. Mr. F. H. Fortescue ably acted as stage manager, various local ladies sold programmes, etc., and the arrangements for the benefit were carried out under the direction of a committee comprising Mr. Henry Lucas, Mr. I. Ellis Miller, Mr. Horace Livermore, Mr. A. J. Carter, Mr. N. Preston-Hilary, Mr. G. R. Chapman, Mr. Fred W. Carpenter (hon. treasurer), and Mr. David Crombie (hon. secretary). The music for the evening was under the direction of Messrs. G. R. Chapman, Howard W. Galpin, Maitland de Lacy, Louis Gourvitch, and Edwin Jacobs. The whole entertainment was highly successful, and the evening a very enjoyable one. "The Night Side of London" is the attraction for this week, the sensational play being well staged and ably performed by Mr. C. Watson Mill's No. 1 company. Mr. Henry Deane and Miss Bessie Walters are excellent exponents of the leading parts of Manuel Errington and Esther Doincourt; Mr. J. G. Main acts cleverly as the Jew, Herod Steinburg; Miss Madge Morley displays considerable power as Naomi Merrick; Miss Bella Tilbury is pleasing as Magdale Fawcett; Mr. Harry Tilbury and Miss Mary E. Cotton are amusing in the comic parts of Curly Dabbs and Marie Seaton; and the remaining characters are all in capable hands.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. N. Preston-Hilary; A. M., Mr. F. S. Green; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Mlle. Roshanara, who appeared at the Prince's Theatre here with Pavlova some little time back, is giving her exceptionally interesting Indian dances here. Wonderfully fascinating, graceful, and weird are the Indian dances, which comprise the Incense dance, Warrior's dance, and Snake dance, which are given to the accompaniment of Indian music; and the Village dance, in its joyous and lively movements, is quite an agreeable contrast of grace and beauty. On Monday evening the inimitable artiste was presented with some beautiful bouquets. The highly successful water spectacle "Mexico" is included in the programme; and excellent turns are given by Alma and Ella, who entertain with songs in various dresses; Torbay, with his clever shadow entertainment; Alberta Flahey's violin selections are admirably played, and her tenor sings really well; Briff, Braff, and Broff are smart acrobats and tumblers; Albert Le Fre, a comedian with good songs, patter, and a capital dancer; and bioscope pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—R. M., Mr. Henry Lucas; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Gourvitch.—Ernest C. Rolls is presenting "Ragmania" here; the staging is attractive, the artistes are daintily costumed, and the whole entertainment goes well. Marjory Dawson, the crinoline girl, does admirably with her songs and choruses; Betty and Louie Rousby present a picturesque revue, "Greater London," the tableaux being effective; Campbell and Brady do good work as club jugglers, dancers, etc.; Hart and Edie, the middy and the Dutch girl, please with a medley of songs; Randolph Sutton, light comedian, is appreciated; the Violet Shelley Trio amuse with their sketch, "An Ideal Woman"; Joe Collins, comedian, does a good turn; and Stan and Stella Atkins please with their comedy and dancing act. Pictures conclude.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.—L. and G. M., Mr. Joe Collins; R. M., Mr. A. J. Carter; Mus. D., Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—Henry Herne, Ida Millais and company are highly successful with their sensational water sketch, "Blackmail," the staging being excellent. The Dick and Dorothy Trio do some capital step-dancing, etc.; Louie Beckman, comedienne, presents a pleasing and successful turn; Athlone does some clever feats of strength; Fred Hallam sings his songs in humorous style; Mollie McCarthy (assisted by Little Dot) is a talking and successful comedienne; Carmen and Redwin are well-trained vocalists, etc.; the Sisters Elsie do some good ragtime dancing; and there is a Ragtime Competition at each performance, open to all amateurs, with cash prizes of £5. Interesting pictures conclude.

LIVERMORE'S PALACE.—M., Mr. Horace Livermore; Mus. D., Mr. Frederic Fey.—The leading picture here is "In a Gambler's Clutches." The solo vocalists for the week are Miss Edith Francombe, contralto; and Miss Winifred Field, soprano. Hamilton's Excursions and Diorama, "Our Colonies," is also included in the programme.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner; A. M., Mr. John Holden; Mus. D., Mr. Syd Beckett.—This week (once nightly): Jack McKenzie's company in "Somebody's Sweetheart." The company includes: Jack McKenzie, Edward Rawlinson, Bernard Mervyn, George Power, Fred Owen, Dora Phyliss, Miss Maisie Leon, Miss Stella Miller, Miss Edie James, Miss Dora Selby, Miss Hilda Knight, Miss Ada Reed, Miss Viola Rene. Next week: "The Pet of the Ranch."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly): Malia and Bart; Hector and Lolletta, equilibrists; Nava and Minton, in "A Leap Year Proposal"; Penman and Millar, gymnastic comedians; Harry Drew, Welsh bacso; Tina Paynola, lady mimic of instruments, animals, babies, etc.; Fred Shephard, comedian; Paget Trio, in musical act; the American Messenger Boys, in songs and dances; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre and Hippodrome (Burnley), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Olga, Elgar and Eli Hudson, in vocal and musical act; O'Hanlon and Rivkin, musicians, vocalists, and dancers; Mabel Costello; Happy Attwood, comedian; the Persoles, acrobats; A. W. Scott; Alf Chester, comedian; Sylvia Cavalho and company, in "The Husband of Peggy"; and pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THEATRE.—L., The Burton Theatre, Ltd.; M., Mr. Jno. H. French.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson, jun., presents "A Queen for a Wife." The company includes: Mr. E. A. Hill Mitchelson, jun., Mr. Ernest Fosbrooke, Mr. Arthur Robinson, Mr. Michael Adams, Mr. Walter E. Dresden, Mr. Cowell Clarke, Mr. Henry Armitage, Mr. Bob Cromwell, Mr. Edward Cramon, Mr. W. Carpenter, Mr. H. Toms, Miss Florence French, Miss Rosie Russell, Miss Edna Clare, Miss Alice Belmore. T. M., Mr. Albert F. Wallace. Next week: "Our Flat."

BURY (Lancs.).

ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Asst. A. M., Mr. J. G. McPherson.—This week (twice nightly): Binns and Binns; the Vagabonds, in comedy and music; Wee Josie, juvenile comedienne and dancer; Alcide Capitaine, gymnast; Brierley and Fenton, in vocal scena; Eric and Erne, comedians; the Miller-Sutcliffes, in clever and original act; and May Lilian Levey, in selection of chorus songs; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Ernest Sims; Mus. D., Mr. John Peel.—This week (twice nightly): Tom E. Dean, comedian; Edna Lorne, contralto; Eight Seaside Girls, vocalists and dancers; A. C. Astor, ventriloquist; Wat Tyler, vocalist; De Mona and Wills, musicians; Leolin, juggler; the Darleys, comedy duo; pictures.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Asst. A. M., Mr. J. S. McPherson.—This week: Pictures only.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. S. Frank.—This week: Joe Cookson, ventriloquist; Reeve and Roxborough; Harry Zetter, comedian; Bersie Callow, vocalist; and pictures.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; M. & Sec., Mr. F. T. Boucher.—This week: "The Gipsies and their Jester." Artistes: Miss Viola Williams, soprano; Miss Mildred Carton, contralto; Miss Jessica Brooke, comedienne and dancer; Miss Louise Harvey, solo piano and accompanist; Mr. Sydney F. Courtenay, baritone; Mr. Edgar Berte, raconteur; Mr. Leonard Neville, comedian and dancer. Next week: The D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: Bu-Val, the happy Dutchman; the two Hiltons, comedy artistes; the Sisters Brenton, duettists and dancers; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday. Mus. D., Mr. Wm. le Roy.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—This week: Thursday, Friday, Saturday (matinée 2.30), The Sheffield Repertory Co. Thursday and Saturday matinée, "Cupid and the Styx"; Friday, "The Importance of Being Earnest"; Saturday, "Admiral Guinea."

EMPIRE.—L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mrs. Hawkins; Mus. D., Mr. Davis.—This week (twice nightly; picture matinée on Saturday): Musical Keiths, operatic entertainment; the Woellhafs, vaudeville artistes; Gracie Gerald, comedienne and dancer; Will Tyler, trick cyclist; and pictures.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. R. Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Ambrose Mabbett.—This week (once nightly, and matinée Saturday at 2): Mr. Brandon Thomas' West-End company, in "Charley's Aunt." Cast includes: Messrs. Theo. McCausland Stewart, James Page, Lawrence Anderson, F. T. Cooper, Charles Windermere, Sydney Compton, and Misses Ada Ferrar, Florence Saunders, Vera Cornish, and Pauline Hugen. Preceded by "The Colour-sergeant." T. M., Mr. Cecil Barth.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (twice nightly): "The King and the Unknown Woman." The company includes: Messrs. Harold Heath, Richard Ferris, Walter Curnock, Geoffrey Chate, Algy Spalding, Arthur Beaufort, Norman S. Chantry, Little Elly Scudamore, and Misses Muriel Palmer, Lillian Fenn, Gretchen Rosel, and Mabel Scudamore. T. M., Mr. Richard Ferris.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): Vesta Tilley; Marie Reeve, comedienne; Rex Fox, ventriloquism on a wire; Harry Bedford, comedian; Lily Langtry; Nicol Brothers, comedy cyclists; Luis Alvarez, tenor vocalist; Farr and Farland; Willette Whittaker, in coon melodies; pictures.

CARLISLE.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week (twice nightly): Philip lier and Mlle. Etoile Le Noir and Co., in "The Village Concert"; the Aza Trio, vocalists and dancers; Minnie Paget, concertina queen; Mme. Adah Payne, vocalist; Rag and Tag, knockabout artistes; Arthur Clifton, comedian; Peter and Potts, comedians; the Kirbys, entertainers; and pictures.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Charles Gadsby and Sons; B. M., Councillor Harry Masterman, J.P.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Will Casey presents "Her Ruined Life." The company includes: Messrs. Edward Aldworth, Frank Irwin, Will Casey, Edward Swinton, Henry Wright, Dicky Bird, W. Fisher, Cecil Roberts, F. Davis, Arthur Wright, H. Hammerton, Misses Edie Tempest, Annie Mitchell (Mrs. Will Casey), and Florrie Kelsey.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—P., Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Beanland and Emerson. This week (once nightly): Callen and Emery, in comedy act; and pictures. Picture matinées Monday and Saturday at 3 p.m.

CHATHAM.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Messrs. Stoll and Davis; R. M., Mr. Lionel Melville.—This week twice nightly): James A. Watts, Pasquali Bros., tumblers and equilibrists; Three Rascals at the piano; Gaston Chevallier and Mlle. Etoile Le Noir and Co., in "The Mexican Rebel Dance"; Caselli Sisters, singers, dancers, etc.; Millie Payne, comedienne and artiste; Signor Manzoni and his mandoline; Harry Lindon; and pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Champion; Gertie Rex, character comedienne; Linn and Darius, in vocal and instrumental act; the Meadens, in "The Commercial Traveller"; Stanley Waller, comedian, at the piano; Madge Rayne, comedienne; Bart and Bart, acrobatic comedians; and pictures.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week: Mr. Sydney Poulter's company in "Dad," under the direction of Miss Fellowes-Robinson. The cast includes: Mr. J. Knox-Orde, Mr. Frank Lyndon, Mr. George Morgan, Mr. Deane Cliffe, Mr. Siddons Kemble, Mr. James Darew, Mr. Ralph Leon, Mr. C. Hacking, Miss Evelyn Carleton, Miss Gwen Meldrum, and Miss Dorothy Kidner. Next week: "Dan, the Outlaw."

WINTER GARDEN PICTURE HOUSE.—M., Mr. E. Wilmot Carlton.—This week: Selwyn and Willows, world's champion athletes; Dan O'Scott, the remarkable Scotchman; and pictures.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Shakspere Shenton.—This week: The Four Minims, premier comedy vocalists; Daintie Dixie, in song and dance act; and pictures.

MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—L. and M., Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—This week: Mr. Alexander Lees's company, the Sparklets, including Mr. Dan Leno, jun., Miss Philo Norton, Mr. Alexander Lee, Mr. Darroll Richards, Mr. David W. Norton, and Miss Dorris Langdon. Next week: The Mad Hatters.

CHESTERFIELD.

CORPORATION THEATRE.—This week (twice nightly): Signor Arvi, Italian illusionist; Oswald Locke, burlesque artiste; Isabelle Dorothy, vocalist; Tom Burton, comedian; The Wallers, entertainers; Belle and Austin, in "A Fatal Rehearsal"; and pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—P. Hippodromes (Chesterfield), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. C. F. Howard.—This week (twice nightly): Trumpet-Major Maddock, in musical act; Bessie Neilson, chorus vocalist; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodromes (Chesterfield), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. R. Sargisson.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno's Co. in "The Mumming Birds"; Billy Marsden, the musical lad; Field and Mansell, jugglers; Smit and Smit, the "nuts"; the Two Britons, athletes; Dudley Dale and boy assistants, in songs and dances; Sidney Black, dancer; Fred Karno's Co. in "The Village Sports."

CLYDEBANK.

CLYDEBANK THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Major Geo. Mitchell; Mus. D., Mr. A. De Gabriell.—This week (twice nightly): Ponchery and Zaidie, in novelty wire act; Geo. Lackie, Scotch character comedian; Shamus and Kittie, in vocal and dancing novelty; Rita Hutcheon, comedienne; Hilma, King, and Boston, in coon patter and rag-time; and pictures.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—This week (twice nightly): Henri Cazman and Family; Florence Yaymen, assisted by Master Henri Leon, pianist, in disrobing act; the Two Plumbs, singers and dancers; Barney Vox, ventriloquist; Vagabond West, singer; Charles Coll, comedian; Leo Tell and Page, mimic; the Custances, sketch artistes; Yvrene's Silhouettes; Henri Cazman, protean actor.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—This week: Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, in "A Royal Divorce." Cast includes: Messrs. Juan Buonaparte, R. E. Pickering, Geo. Howard, Geo. A. Brandram, Geo. Hudson, W. Robins, Sam V. Lysons, Ed. Longford, Lorton Orme, C. Jackson, P. Morris, J. Rigby, T. Keld, W. O'Connor, Misses Violet Ellicott, Lilian Herries, Clara Earle, Kitty Wickstand, Kathleen Hamilton, Agnes Zambal, Emma Rainbow, Marie Johns, and Helen Meadows.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. G. E. Wright.—This week: Barnold and his dogs, Ethel Arden and company, David Poole, Strength Bros., Regan and Ryan, Welda and Wynne, and Betty Woden.

CRADLEY HEATH.

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. D. C. Phelps.—This week: Kail Stern, the Colombo coon, assisted by Marie Yessen; Davis and Deane, society entertainers; Eileen and May, refined instrumentalists; the Ashbys, comedy duo; Clarence Turner; and pictures.

NEW ROYAL ELECTRIC THEATRE.—This week: Daisy Graham and performing birds; Pattir Pelham and Gladys Kay in pot-pourri; Iris Clare, comedienne and dancer; Alf Grady, comedian; and pictures.

CREWE.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; R. M., Mr. George Burton.—This week: Sam Voss, quack doctor; Gladys Asquith, comedienne; Fred Dunstone, comedian; the Four Storeys and Palmyra, in a musical mélange; and pictures.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Arthur Vasey and Co.—This week: "Broncho," the thoroughbred mustang, introduced by Texas and Flo; and pictures.

EMPIRE ELECTRIC PALACE.—M., Mr. Rae.—This week: Martinett and Wallace, musical comedians; and pictures.

CROYDON.

REPERTORY THEATRE.—D. Keble Howard and Dick Adams; M., Mr. Ernest Archer.—This week (once nightly, and Wednesday matinée, 2.30): "The New Sin," preceded by "First Aid." Cast includes: John Napper, William Stack, Eille Norwood, James Gelderd, Stanley Lathbury, A. E. Filmer, Richard Eldridge. Next week: "Dropping the Pilot."

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Alfred Powley; Mus. D., Mr. Len Trevor.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's company in "Jane." The company includes: Mr. Harry Hardy, Mr. Lionel Ellis, Mr. Charles Usher, Mr. Percy Dyer, Mr. Sebastian Smith, Miss Jenny Lynn, Miss Zoe Davis, Miss Winnie Wing, and Miss Jeannie Holmes. Next week: "Brigadier Gerard."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; A. M., Mr. R. James; Mus. D., Mr. Leslie Russell.—This week (twice nightly): The Melroses; Fred Barnes; the Brothers Bright; Harry Ford; Billy Williams; Victoria Monks; "Reynolds's Newspaper" Ragtime Song competition; pictures; selections by Mr. Leslie Russell's band; Camilla Feo; the Rosina Trio; and sketch "The Half Caste." The company includes: Herbert Young, Lionel Watson, James Albion, Charles Devenport, Rajah Baboo, and Evelyn Beresford.

DARLINGTON.

ROYAL THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. James Bell; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Dobing.—This week (twice nightly): The Royal Stock company present "A White Man." The company includes: Mr. Alex Alexander, Mr. J. Dobson Clyde, Mr. Roxborough Kelso, Mr. Bertie Wild, Mr. Dennis Sheppard, Mr. Naylor Grimson, Mr. Sidney Rennef, Mr. John A. Riley, Mr. Jas. Greenwood, Mr. Ted Mooney, Mr. Ernest Gregg, Mr. Geo. Osmond Tearle, Mr. Duncan Smyth, Miss Maire Cordiner, Miss Stella Carmichael, Miss Lily Beverley, Miss Gladys Brittan, and Miss Grace Stafford.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Sydney B. Stringer; Mus. D., Mr. H. Bull.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. John R. Poole and Theo Y. Johnson present the Fourteen Colonial Boys; Harold Heath, vocalist and dancer; Terry Twins, comedians; St. Hellir and Dorothy, juvenile entertainers; J. W. Warner, ventriloquist; the Brennans, clog dancers; Helen Charles, vocaliet, pianist, and mimic; and pictures.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Darwen Theatre Royal Co.; G. M., Mr. Thos. Baker; Mus. D., Mr. E. T. De Banzie.—This week (twice nightly): Maxford and O'Neil comedians; Mr. and Mrs. Randle, in "Subdued"; Maud May Murray, in classical dances; and pictures.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle, and Rawlinson; M., Mr. J. D. Rawlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Les Raymonds, Mara and Nell, singers and dancers; Albert Haydock, juvenile comedian; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—P., Messrs. Bradley and Hindle.—This week (twice nightly): Elsie Arnold and Lil Baxter, gipsy vocalists; Harvey and West, dancers; and pictures.

DERBY.

GRAND.—P. and M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. C. Denley; Asst. M., Mr. J. B. Torr.—This week: Fred Karno's company in "The Hydro" and "The New Slavey"; Four Ormonds, in a dancing speciality; Gerino, in a juggling act; Pete and Juno, comedians and dancers; Sumicio, mimic; Leonie Dixon, comedienne and dancer; Ardel and Odell, comedy acrobats; and pictures.

PALACE.—L. and M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. T. W. Moyes; Asst. M., Mr. A. J. Knight.—This week: Eretto Troupe, in acrobatic interlude; Billy Rogers, comedian; Sisters Mayor, vocalists and dancers; and pictures.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE.—This week: Francis O'Flynn, banjoist; Len Keppel, mimic and comedian; and pictures.

PAVILION AND GARDENS.—This week: Harry Leslie's company, the Gay Lieutenants.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. E. Prance; Asst. M., Mr. Wm. Baldwin.—This week: Dan Whitely, in latest successes; lively Lily Burnand, burlesque actress; Rosie Ring; Will H. Kuming, at the piano; Fitz-Allen, the novelty comedian; the Holsons, comedians; Orpheus, instrumental speciality; and the famous Bouncing Dillons.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. C. Watson Mill presents "Mid Pleasures and Palaces." The company includes: Mr. Fred Frank, Mr. Harry Presoner, Mr. Edward Ashby, Mr. Edward E. Louis, Mr. Horace A. Whitmee, Mr. Arthur Denton, Mr. Richard Oliver, Mr. W. Palliser Acock, Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe, Mr. George Buckley, Mies Myra Eyton, Miss Edith Gregory, Miss Ethel Dobbs, and Miss Joan Ellis. T. M., Mr. Fred Sutcliffe. Next week: "Another Man's Wife."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Asst. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—This week (twice nightly): Ike and Will Scott, comedians; Daisy Griff, comedienne; Lavall and Badine, on the silver arch; Fred Hastings, comedian; Bernard and a pack of cards; Jabez Wolffe will describe his long distance swim; Smite and Smite, comedians; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; Asst. M., Mr. H. Shepherd; Operator, Mr. W. Mitchell.—This week: Charles Hatch, comedian; and pictures.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.—L., Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Bernard O. Keefe.—This week: Pictures.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. Charlton T. Waddington.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Chas. Locke presents his company, in "Bonnie Mary." The cast includes: Messrs. Geo. Lyttleton-Holyoake, George Dudley, John Cullen, Ernest J. Fare, Victor T. Raymond, Wallie Spinner, Charles Myers, Tom Senior, William Grante, Frank Preston, and Misses Leah Marlborough, Lissa Young, Alice Morrow, and Beatrice Malvern. Next week: Mr. W. V. Garrod's company, in "A Wife for a Day."

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Burns.—This week (twice nightly): John F. Traynor and company, in "The Devil's Elbow"; Wallie Morgan, comedienne; Virto and Bobsy, in musical act; Fred Camplin, in "Liffy, the Liftman"; Irene May, vocalist; Brothers Bernhart, the University man and the other chap; Merry and Glad, acrobatic parodists; M. Gintaro, the world's greatest top-spinner, juggler, etc.; and pictures.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; M., Mr. E. Holford; Mus. C., Mr. C. C. Hill.—This week (twice nightly): James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden, the dancer and the scutrette; John Gain and Doris Gilham, in "Pyjamalogue"; Nan Taylor, male impersonator; George Barton, vocalist and dancer; Leslie Ross, comedian; Beau Cannon, comedienne; Capt. Grahame, the South African trainer, and his baboon, monkeys, and dog.

KING'S HALL (PICTURES).—M. D., Mr. H. R. Geddes.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Wards, part singers and dancers; the famous Gattessas, vocalists, in scena from "Il Trovatore"; the Monkey Music Hall, controlled by monkeys, presented by Maud Rochez.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. Chas. Hyland; Stage M., Mr. Arthur Armstrong; Mus. D., Mr. Hubert Rooney.—The Corinthian Opera Company—a band of local amateurs and professionals—are drawing crowded houses here this week. On Monday night Balfe's romantic opera, "The Siege of Rochelle," was produced, and met with a most enthusiastic reception. The piece contains many melodies thoroughly characteristic of the author's genius, and regret was expressed that the opera has not been oftener produced. All the artistes on this occasion did ample justice to the beautiful work, and if any deserve signalling out it is Miss Lena Munro, who as Clara achieved one of the great successes of her career; W. H. Jones was the Valamour, singing and acting in brilliant style under the disadvantage of a severe cold. Mr. O'Carroll Reynolds (Montalban), Vincent Haviland (Rosenberg), and Marcella (Miss Coplin) were all splendid, and the chorus of over fifty rendered their music admirably. On other nights Wallace's famous opera, "Lurline," was produced with complete success. Miss Lena Munro was again to the fore in the name-part; whilst Mr. O'Carroll Reynolds as the Gnome and Mr. Stanley Lyon as Count Rudolph were both in capital voice. But perhaps the feature of the opera was the delightful singing and acting of Miss Eileen Furlong as Ghiva. Possessed of a rich contralto voice and beautiful stage presence, she was a notable success, singing all her numbers in a style which roused the audience to intense enthusiasm. To Mr. Armstrong, the stage-manager, a special meed of praise is due for such two fine productions; also to Mr. Hubert Rooney, who at all times had his orchestra under complete control. Next week: "The Devil's Disciple."

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Charles Terry; Mus. D., Mr. J. Moody.—"Milestones," the great London success, has at last reached Dublin, and, judging by its reception on Monday night, seems to be one of the most popular plays seen here for a considerable time. The company selected by Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie is a thoroughly capable one all round, the varying phases of each character being brought forth in telling fashion. As John Rhead, Mr. Arthur Gulland was excellent, displaying a versatility and at the same time a consistency that was difficult to maintain. As his unfortunate sister Gertrude, Miss Mona Harrison shows histrionic gifts of a high character. Where all were so good it seems invidious to signal out anyone, and a better all-round company has not been seen here for some time. Next week: Quinlan Opera Company in "The Ring."

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. J. Baynton; A. M., Mr. C. F. Wright.—T. Morton Powell's company is here again in "Two Little Vagabonds," which, although seen several times already, is as popular as ever. The company is a good one, and all the adventures of the youths are followed with breathless excitement.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Taylor.—"The Photographer," a sketch to which Charlie Bell and company do full justice, causes roars of laughter; Richard Wally is one of the cleverest jugglers seen here for some time—all his feats are performed with ease and finish; Dave Bryant is a comedian with a genius for mimicry; the Orchids supply an entertaining ten minutes of music and mirth; Hellier and Haynes dance in splendid style; Thomas and Taylor succeed in their mission of mirth; and, with the Sylvester Trio; Joan Kent, comedienne; and the Melbournes make up a capital programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M. & S., Mr. George Marsh; Mus. D., Mr. Price.—Miss Winifred Ward, "the dashing boy," has several good songs, and her reception is one to be proud of; dainty

tinct novelty in this line; the Flying Hartwells give an amazing exhibition on the double swinging rope, their performance being marked with precision and neatness; pictures by the Kingscope complete. At special picture matinées each day, Paul J. Rainey's African Hunt pictures have been shown to large audiences; the racy description of the pictures given by Mr. Henry Latimer adds much to the enjoyment of a unique entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; District and A. M., Mr. Tom Lunn.—The Four Mackinnons, vocalists, musicians, and dancers, are versatile performers, and provide an entertainment in which there is never a dull moment; Jim Max, coon comedian, sings well, and effectively appeals to the popular taste; a splendid assortment of the latest and best films complete.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; District M., Mr. Tom Lunn; A. M., Mr. C. J. McArthy.—There are no variety turns on the bill here this week, the whole programme being composed of pictures.

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—P., Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; M., Mr. J. Pennycook; Mus. D., Mr. James Walton.—Freddy Welch, a capital Scotch character comedian and dancer, receives a welcome that leaves no doubt whatever of his popularity; Sunny Sarah Hicks is a clever comedienne and Dutch sabot dancer; Renot, "the original newsboy," is accorded a hearty reception; and pictures complete.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Blyth.—Tom Gibson and Chris O'Brien, two capital comedians, supply the vaudeville portion of the show here; and many beautiful pictures are also screened.

NEW HIPPODROME.—P. and M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ruse. Tom Gibson and Chris O'Brien constitute the variety section of the entertainment here, and repeat their success at the Tivoli; pictures complete.

WEST END CINEMA.—S. and T., Mr. Alex. Mitchell.—Kitty Drew, a dainty comedienne, provides an enjoyable turn; and some fine pictures are shown.

KINNAIRD HALL.—A Trades' Exhibition is being held here, and is drawing large houses. The White Rose Ladies' Orchestra discourses enjoyable selections, and there are several side shows of an attractive order.

DURHAM.

PALACE.—P., Mr. T. C. Rawes; Mus. D., Mr. John H. Hodgson.—This week: The Four Boises, in "Human Aeroplanes"; the Royal Merry Four, harmonising comedians and dancers; Les Pagolas, in comedy acrobatic act; and the Havana Trio, in song and dance; and pictures.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clark; Mus. D., Mr. Alfred Emmerson.—This week (once nightly): For the first three nights, Miss Stella Gastelle, Mr. Frank Esmond and company in "The Tide," preceded by Miss Gwennie Campbell in songs and stories at the piano. The company includes: Miss Stella Gastelle, Mr. Frank Esmond, Mr. Ernest Watts-Tye, Mr. Kenneth Kent, Miss Hettie Cavendish, Miss Gwenda Wren, Mr. Howard Bead, Mr. Malcolm V. Malcolm, Miss Evelyn Stevens, and Miss A. Burkin. Remainder of week: "Milestones." Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Martin Adeson, supported by Miss Clara Barnard, in "Dr. Maud's First Patient"; Guy and Grahame, the Bond-street Johnnies; the Corellis, in "The Electrical Musical Mills"; Walter Stanley, comedian; Ramona, in dancing speciality; Jock Barker, vocalist; Josie Hammersley, comedienne; and pictures.

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. George Hayes; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—This week (once nightly): First three evenings of the week: Mr. Frank Weathersby's company in "A Cigarette-Maker's Romance." The company includes: Mr. E. Kayson Cousens, Mr. J. D. Geddes, Mr. Sydney T. Pease, Mr. Val Gully, Mr. W. A. James, Mr. Wilfred Compton, Miss Vida Varrell, Miss Dorothy James, Miss Ruth Dockray. Thursday and five following nights, Mr. Lawrence Brough and company in "The Lady of Ostend" and "Confusion."

DEVONSHIRE PARK FLORAL HALL.—M. & S., Mr. E. A. Brown.—On Saturday afternoon, the Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Norfolk Megone, commences the season's engagement; and the artistes for the week-end are Miss Mary Gray, soprano, and M. Dubin, the new Russian tenor.

ECCLES.

CROWN THEATRE.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Albert Rogers. This week (twice nightly): Agnes Tina, mimic; the Hesseys, vocalists and instrumentalists; pictures.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Simon Ord; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—"Brewster Millions" is once more made welcome in Edinburgh for the sake of Mr. Percy Hutchison's breezy and excellent acting in the rôle of Monty Brewster. The piece provides a thoroughly agreeable entertainment, and Lyceum audiences this week have liberally repeated their evident tokens of appreciation. A competent company supports Mr. Hutchison in a good all-round fashion. Mr. F. G. Thurston gives a quaint study of Rawles, the imperturbable butler: the personal and official friends of the coming millionaire are well characterised by Messrs. Gerald Fitzgerald, Herbert Marshall, Andrew Wight, and others; Mr. Charles Bedells and Mr. Stanley Kilby make the most of Mr. Grant and Colonel Drew; and Mr. A. Paynter is an amusing Monsieur Bargie. Among the ladies, Miss Elsie Stranack is quite taking as Margaret Gray. Miss Claire Gilvain effectively realises the part of Janice Armstrong, and Mrs. Dan de Mille, Barbara Drew, and Trixie Clayton are well represented by Miss Lilias Earle, Miss Gwenda Villiers, and Miss Muriel Nevison. In the pleasant duologue, "Two in a Trap," which precedes the comedy, Mr. Herbert Marshall and Miss Betty Linley find their opportunities.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Wm. Whitehead; Vaudeville season, under the direction of Mr. Walter de Frece; Mus. D., Mr. Firmin Shackleton.—That mirthful, farcical sketch, "Mashing the Missus," proves as entertaining as ever in the hands of those old Edinburgh favourites, W. H. Rawlins and George Gregory, assisted by Miss Lilian Hewitson and Miss Nellie Sheffield, all of whom kept the fun going smartly from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Mr. Rawlins, as author and actor in the piece, merits the double measures of appreciation which mark its success. Another exceedingly acceptable sketch, entitled "The Key of the Situation," by George Arthur, is nicely presented by Miss Jean Harkness and company; and two enjoyable musical numbers are provided by the singing of Miss Doris Trevelyan and the 'cello playing of Grandpierre; the American Cooke and Botherts, with their novelty dancing; Jimmy Godden, as a quaint comedian; Jaap van Laren, in difficult feats on the slack wire; and Bert Williams, in a clever ventriloquial scena, contribute quite happily in their different lines to the variety of a good programme.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., The Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. A. Douglas Willcox.—The programme here contains the best characteristics of a vaudeville entertainment, fresh, wholesome, and pleasant from beginning to end. Linga Singh, the Hindoo conjurer, presents a series of extraordinary feats, bewildering to the last degree, and the performer is not without humour. The Courtiers' musical scena is extremely clever as regards the business of the artistes, and wholly delightful from a vocal standpoint; Winsome Drummond's sweet and cultured voice is heard to much advantage in several popular ballads, which the singer renders with rare taste and expression; Phil and Phlora are excellent in the neatness and dexterity with which they carry through their telling and amusing acrobatic sketch, and there is fun and smartness in the comic juggling of Bonetti and Corri. To say that the turn of Little Bella and Jules Terry is warmly appreciated would be but poor praise. These highly intelligent children submit a performance which not only abounds in quaint humour, but is marked by a really charming quality of dancing, while the interpretation of Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody by the young girl at the piano is positively fascinating; Miss Madge Diston is a gifted comedienne, and the droll acrobatic sketch of Conway and Leland, "The Merry Monopedes," calls forth hearty laughter and applause. Mr. Will Cox always provides high-class music, and the rendering this week of the overture to Rossini's "Semiramide" is received with deserved enthusiasm.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Limited; Asst. M., Mr. Charles A. Bayne; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—Mr. Arthur Roberts and company head the bill this week with the farce, "Till Sunday; or, A River Episode." Mr. Roberts, funny as ever, fairly revels in the triple rôles of Mr. James Doyle, Herr Spuffenstein, and Nurse Tutti Frutti, to which an effective make-up of each character heightens the cleverness of the actor's work. He is well supported by Miss Lorraine Stevens, Miss Townshend, Mr. Harry Worth, and Mr. H. Huddlestone. The Sisters Royce and Sid give a lively and pretty vocal and dancing act, for which they are warmly applauded; Solo, in a sketch, "A Lesson in Temperance," full of ingenious mechanical surprises, pleases his audience; and Wheeler and Berkeley are seen in an amusing turn, "The Toff and the Taxi"; the Petersen Brothers, clever comedy acrobats, deputise for Coakley, Hanvey, and Dunlevy with vigour, drollery, and effect; the Five X Rays present an original performance as acrobats, and meritorious single-handed turns are contributed by Miss Lulu Williams, comedienne and dancer, and Ben Albert, "the dry old stick in fresh logic."

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. B. Hampton; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Cooper.—This week (once nightly, for three nights): Philip Michael Faraday presents "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Miss Pearl Ladd, Miss Courtis Cheal, Miss Nellie Dale, Mr. Harry Arnold, Mr. Lawrence Howard, Mr. Robert Seymour, Mr. Harry Chiles, Mr. Harry Milner, Miss Mabel Crouch, Miss Suzette Dole, Mr. Patrick Evans, Miss Elma Middleton, Miss Ruby Leslie, Mr. James Davis, Mr. Leo Sheffield. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. William H. Dewhurst, Miss Beatrice Fielden Kaye, Miss Florence Rutter, Mr. Charles Freeman, Miss Di Forbes, Mr. Philip B. Ridgeway, Mr. Frank Howard, Miss Hilda Kenyon. Miss Beryl Carter. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "Milestones."

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., The Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. E. C. Howitt.—This week (twice nightly): Alexander's Coliseum Players present "When There's Love at Home." The company includes: Mr. Roy Selfridge, Mr. Henri Stewart, Miss Louie Lonora, Miss Lilian Maitland, Miss Ada Champion, Mr. Louis Lingard, Mr. Bert Oates, Mr. Victor Tandy, Mr. Royce Carleton, Mr. Leslie Cudd. T. M., Mr. Roy Selfridge.

KING'S THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. R. F. Douthwaite; A. M., Mr. M. S. Hammond.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. John B. Shinton present "Arrah-na-Pogue." The company includes: Mr. John B. Shinton, Mr. Fred H. Constable, Mr. Frank Kelland, Mr. Ernest Regent, Mr. Bert Atherton, Mr. Edward Lowrie, Mr. Charles M. Holmes, Mr. Montague Corri, Miss Edith Watkins, Miss Isabel Hunt, Miss Ada M. Ryder (Mrs. John B. Shinton).

GILLINGHAM.

GRAND.—P., The Grand Variety and Picture Co.; S. & M., Mr. W. T. Beattie.—This week (twice nightly): Mysterious Mysticus, illusionist; Ed. J. Challoner and Dickie Watt, black-faced comedians; May Gordon, comedienne; Charles Merry, comedian; and pictures.

GEM.—P., Messrs. C. and S. Goodman; M., Mr. C. Goodman.—This week (twice nightly): The Vocal Duo, in scena, "Gems of Harmony"; Wal Lesby, comedian; Bert Berry, vocalist; and pictures.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D.'s, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—For the last week of the season here the attraction is "Improper Peter," from the Garrick Theatre, London. The company is under the direction of Mr. N. Thorpe-Mayne, and an enjoyable rendering of the comedy is given. Mr. Cyril Austin Lee is well suited as Peter Everest, and as Periwinkle Miss Beryl Hamilton is charmingly natural. Miss Winifred Gardner makes a cynical Mrs. Everest. Mr. N. Thorpe-Mayne acts the puritanical Sir Walter Stancombe, and his somewhat caddish son Charles is ably played by Mr. Charles Kent-Francis. Mr. George Brooke and Miss Nellie Beryl as Captain and Mrs. Mitchener act as pleasing contrasts to some of the more worldly characters. Miss Bessie Jewell is a stately Mrs. Crevosier; Mr. Thomas Barry is good as Parkinson; and two clever studies are the young American and English types as played by Messrs. Fred Wallis and Wm. Jules Kemp. The comedy is preceded by a sketch, "The Raffle-ing of Sherlock Holmes," written by Mr. N. Thorpe-Mayne and produced by Miss Beryl Hamilton. In this Conan-Doyle's famous detective is cleverly outwitted by the equally great A. J. Raffles.

KING'S.—M. D., Messrs. Fred W. Wyndham and George T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—With new musical numbers, new costumes, and other features, "The Arcadians" is more attractive than ever. The fun is kept going merrily by Mr. Coningsby Brierly as Simplicitas, his every move being irresistible, while Mr. George Hestor finds a most congenial part as Peter Doody, the melancholy jockey; Mr. R. Gascoyne made a good impression in the part of Jack Meadows, in which he was ably assisted by Miss Nellie Taylor as Eileen Kavanagh, the singing and dancing of the latter being much admired. From a singing and dancing point of view, Miss Ethel Castaldini, as Sombra, chief of the Arcadian ladies, was charming, but a general meed of praise must be given to all in the cast. Special mention must be made of Miss Nellie Kavanagh as Mrs. Smith. So far as staging and dresses are concerned, nothing prettier has been seen in Glasgow.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. H. J. Crane.—There is a change of programme here this week; instead of the usual dramatic fare an excellent selection of animated pictures being screened.

ROYALTY.—Picture season.

METROPOLE.—Closed till May 26.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Asst. M., Mr. Robert Harvey; M. D., Mr. Wm. B. Moore.—Bransby Williams, the famous character actor, was most enthusiastically received on his first appearance here in his latest novelty, "A One-Man Revue," which he sub-titles "A Review of Revues." The characters he interprets range from the Prime Minister and Mr. Forbes-Robertson to George Formby. It is a splendid production, bristling with sparkling wit and genial humour, and never a hint of hurting the susceptibilities of anyone. Mr. Williams had three hearty recalls. That queen of mirth providers, Happy Fanny Fields, is quite irresistible, laughter reigning supreme during the whole of her performance. Griffiths and Carmen are excellent in a humorous burlesque, "The Lady and the Chef." Doroswami, the Indian Kubelik, plays the violin exquisitely, and is also a most capable pianist. Other numbers on this exceptionally entertaining programme are Ethel Loftus, the well-known character comedienne; Lupino Lane, excelling in song and dance; the Swift Duo of comedy cyclists; and Wild Willie and West in their amusing acrobatic act.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. Evan Good; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—Two excellent sketches form the principal part of the programme here. The first is that powerful and dramatic playlet, "Submarine F. 7," which, in its realism and grip, aided, as it is by very good acting all round, again makes a powerful impression. The second sketch is a new humorous Scotch comedy, entitled "The Panel Doctor," which is more fully dealt with in another column. Lily Long, the eccentric comedienne is intensely amusing, and her turn was much enjoyed. Leon Rogee scores as a clever imitator of musical instruments, and his business is clever y interspersed with quiet comedy. Brandt and James, a rag-time comedy duo, present a bright and pleasing entertainment, which is much enjoyed. Stewart and Morris, as knockabout Irish comedians, take well. Miss May Fairclough renders with excellent effect some strong scenes from Shakespearean and modern plays. May, Ivy, and Daisy Gilby, in their musical and dancing act, are very smart and clever, and the audience were most appreciative.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; G. M., Mr. Harry McKelvie; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Fellowes.—Miss Juliette, who presents her wonderfully trained sea lions, tops the bill at the Palace this week. Edie Haley, the popular versatile comedienne, is still to the front in all her latest successes, and Maggie Fraser keeps up her reputation as a dainty comedienne. Rivers and Sullivan present an entertaining dancing act, and May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, also has a good reception. Frank Philips, comedian, is a popular turn, and Norbrech and Fraser, artistic singers, take well. Jimmy Walsh provides a good deal of amusement in his rôle of eccentric singing comedian, and the Bros. Lloyd, who present a novel acrobatic turn, are also highly appreciated. Some fine films complete.

PRINCESS'S.—P. & M., Mr. Rich Waldon; G. M., Mr. J. Crimmings; A. M., Mr. H. Murdoch.—The picture season here is proving highly popular, and on the opening night this week large audiences attended at both houses. In addition, there is a capital variety programme, submitted by the Hana Trio, vocalists and dancers; and an American sketch, by Buck Baker, "Pete, the Sheriff."

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr Gordon Jefferson; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Clucas.—A highly entertaining programme is submitted here this week. A most diverting item is "H.M.S. Perhaps," presented by the Six Brothers Luck; Jen Latona, with her vocal, piano, and concertina selections, receives a very hearty welcome; "Cohen's Mistake," a Hebrew interlude, by Hayman and Franklin, is full of humour; and the fresh voices and tuneful numbers of Charburn's Young Stars, pleased the house immensely. The cycling act of A. D. Robbins and Co. has many original features; the patter of Tennison and Wallis is exceedingly smart; George Benson gives clever imitations of well-known stars; and Rhoda Paul is a pleasing male impersonator.

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Croft.—Another revue reaches Glasgow this week, in "What Ho! Ragtime." With bright and tuneful music, clever dancing, pretty girls, and smart comedians, it has all the elements that make for success, and the public are quick to show their appreciation. The famous Okabe Family of Japanese artistes contribute a novel and enjoyable turn. Margaret Stuart is a charming vocalist, Vera Nixon takes well as a comedienne, and an eccentric turn is contributed by Sisi and Fifi. Two new turns are the Bekefy Sisters in international dances, and the amusing Italian musical acrobats, Benedetti Bros., both welcome additions to any variety programme.

LYCEUM, GOVAN, LTD.—R. M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Walker.—To the patrons of this popular house, a capital programme is this week provided. Spessell Bros. and Mack, in an eccentric burlesque, "A Quiet Little Supper," are not unknown, and their clever acrobatic performance on this occasion was quite up to their usual high standard and thoroughly deserved the applause accorded. Grace Lawn, in light comedy numbers, captivates the audience, and is heartily received in delightful vocalism and neatly executed dances. A highly successful appearance was made by Freddy Wolgast, who parodies several ragtime ditties with much acceptance, able assistance being rendered by a very capable partner. Originality is the feature of Harry Brookes' contribution, his expert mandoline and banjo selections eliciting the heartiest applause. Fresh from their pantomime success, Peter Bermingham and Retta Halket, the brilliant Scottish duo, have a flattering reception, their vocal scena, "On Furlough," keeping the audience in a continual uproar. Dolly Marney scores heavily as a male impersonator. The juggling pot-pourri act of Les Valdons is quite unique in its conception, and pictures conclude.

OLYMPIA.—Lessees, Messrs. de Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; M., Mr. John McMillan; Mus. D., Mr. Lex Holmes.—A clever and daring turn is given here this week by Griffen, in his death defying and motor cycle sensation; a screamingly funny comedy boxing act is successfully presented by the Harvey Boys; musicians, singers, and whirlwind dancers of merit are the Bros. Gould; Roy McLean, "a drap o' rale Scotch," is a comedian who pleases; and a character comedian who takes well is Jim Anson. The remaining turns on a capital programme are the Five Broadway Belles, charming vocalists and dancers; Rey and Rey, comedians; Verdi, concertinist; and a musical interlude by the orchestra.

SAVOY.—L., Messrs. Williams and Co.; M., Mr. H. Godwin.—The bill here this week is headed by Adam and Eve, assisted by Apple, "the limit" of simian intelligence, nature's wonderful comedians, who do all manner of tricks on bicycles, play musical instruments, etc.—in fact, everything but talk; a splendid comedy sketch is produced by Geo. Leonard and Lil Stevens, entitled "Coming Home"; and the management have introduced a novel wrestling tournament for the light-weight championship of Great Britain in which all the light-weight champions have entered, and the various bouts caused great excitement, the winner of the most heats taking the championship. Other turns include: Florence Kindal, charming songstress; James Davis comedian; Mamie Morris, comedienne; the Cyclinis, comedy cyclists; Queenie Ring, dainty soubrette; Wilson's Eight Lyrics, smart juvenile vocalists and dancers; George Bernard, London's popular actor-vocalist; the Koncertos, America's classiest novelty violin and singing act; Miss Raie Walters, charming comedienne; Florence Lambeth and Robert Robertson, "the Scots folk"; truly a magnificent array of talent.

HENGLER'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. A. Hengler; G. M., Mr. Harry Milne.—This week Hengler's excel themselves with a capital programme. The pictures are of the usual excellent order. Victor Newman, the favourite character impersonator, gives some of his best impersonations; an original exhibition of whistling is given by James Bendon, the singing and whistling newsboy; Lilian Como and Fred Constance provide much amusement in their laughable sketch, "Wanted, a French Poodle."

STAR PALACE.—P., Star Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Chandos.—Mannon's Maniac Mummers prove themselves a smart and clever quintette, their sketch, "Uncle Yank," being heartily received. Fred Millburn as a ventriloquist is irresistible, his up-to-date jokes and delightful vocalism evoking hearty applause. The Cillarts, a favourite comedy duo, present a humorous playlet, "Memories"; and pictures complete.

PRINGLE'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. George Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. William Milne.—This week (twice nightly): Kate Gourlay, a chic Scotch comedienne, is deservingly popular; while Billy Bracey, comedian, has quaint ways and amusing songs. Pictures complete.

PANOPTICON.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; M., Mr. W. Sinclair. — This week (four times daily): J. K. Macfarlane, Scotch comedian; Madge Redfern, comedienne and dancer; Geo. Buxton, comedian and dancer; Jennie Robertson, chorus vocalist; Luke and Laff, comedians, dancers, etc.; and pictures.

CASINO.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; B. M., Mr. W. Sinclair; R. M., Mr. H. G. Glenroy. — This week (twice nightly): Sam Thompson, comedian; Maude and Harry Montrose, Scotch comedy duo; and pictures.

MARYHILL STAR PALACE.—P., Maryhill Star Palace, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Wm. Howgate. — This week (twice nightly): The Claymore Trio, vocalists, dancers, and jugglers; May Milby, comedienne; and pictures.

IBROX PICTURE PALACE.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; B. M., Mr. W. Sinclair; R. M., Mr. W. Sowerby.—This week (once nightly): Bryson and Deane, vocalists and dancers; Four McLeans, in "The Children's Party"; and pictures.

GLOSSOP.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Sydney Spenser; A. M. & Mus. D., Mr. W. E. Cottrill.—This week (twice nightly): Dee's variety company, including Adras, Continental equilibrists; Miss Alice White, comedienne and dancer; Renz Brothers, comedy acrobats; Miss Rosa Olive, comedienne; Carl Clifford, singing ventriloquist; Bonair and Tess, in protean scena; and Mr. Billy Willis, comedian. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE.—L. and G. M., Mr. Will Smithson; R. M., Mr. R. T. Rea.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. George N. Ballanger presents "The Round-up." The company includes: Messrs. J. P. McBride, Dennis Bryan, Charles Levey, Alfred Grenville, Frank Harrison, Alfred Lafolle, F. Holyoake, G. Halsten, A. Herdsfield, Will Lindoe, S. Morris, Alfred Lovell, T. Leslie, H. W. Hall, G. Kickgate, H. Stanley, W. Heaton, F. Clough, R. Elmsall, Edgar Neville, Lewis Block, F. B. Kelly, Misses Mercia Russell, Edith Giddens, Nora Kingsley, Rita Tompkins, T. M., Mr. Geo. E. Carleton. Next week, "The Ragtime Girl."

KING'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—This week: "A Society Sinner," the Lannons, Valvo, and pictures.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. P. Bennett.—This week (twice nightly): Carl Mysto, the handcuff king; and pictures.

COLISEUM.—P. and M., Mr. R. Hainsworth; Asst. M., Mr. W. Hainsworth.—This week: Mr. W. V. Garrod presents "A Wife for a Day." The company includes: Mr. H. Flanders, Mr. W. V. Garrod, Mr. Theo. Balfour, Mr. Robert Hall, Mr I. Sutton Pateman, Mr. Walter Vincent, Mr. Chas. Brookes, Mr. Herbert Fredericks, Mr. Lyn Lester, Mr. Oliver Monkhouse, Mr. Michael Lewes, Miss Bertha Kingston, Miss Alice Clarke, Miss Gladys Morris. Next week: "Queen of the Redskins."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. T. F. Rose.—This week (twice nightly): Marquis and Truly, the Continental eccentrics, in a comedy and acrobatic scena; and pictures.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole P., Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—This week: Mr. Montague Ashley and Mr. Campbell Goldsmid present Seton Merriman's play, "With Edged Tools." The cast includes Miss Maud Morton Powell, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Miss Patty Groves, Miss Minnie Haydn, Miss Edith Anton-Lang, Messrs. Russell Norrie, Fred Emery, Murray Yorke, Max Copland, and Alfred Conway.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P. & D., Mr. George Gilbert.—This week: Miss Ella's company in "Besieged by Lions," variety, and pictures.

BRITANNIA PIER.—M., Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Sundays and Thursdays, promenade concerts; Mr. Harry Tollfree, Miss Gertrude Crotch, Mr. Archer Wallen, Mr. T. Braham Fox, Miss Evelyn Ray, and Norfolk Military Band, under Mr. W. R. Hann, Mus. Bac. Catlin's Royal Pierrots open on Saturday.

WELLINGTON PIER GARDENS.—M., Mr. A. A. Cash.—Sunday promenade concerts; band of 12th Lancers, under Mr. J. F. Goodered, Mrs. Legood and Mr. S. W. Smith (vocalists).

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. W. T. Green.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Chas. Austin presents "The Exploits of Parker, P.C." The company includes: Messrs. Will H. Ingram, Chas. Neville, J. Mackenzie, F. Emptage, J. Gordon MacIntosh, N. Howard, H. Ranson, Percy Parkes, G. Harris, Fred Norris, C. Harley, and Misses Phyllis Orme and Pauline Saunders. T. M., Mr. J. Henderson. Next week: Variety.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. H. Curry; Mus. D., Mr. J. R. Bingley.—This week: "The Glad Eye." The company includes: Mr. T. G. Vane, Mr. Alfred Drayton, Mr. Frank Bradley, Mr. Robert S. Entwistle, Mr. Leslie Kyle, Mr. J. Courtenay Fagan, Mr. Stanley Groome, Mr. H. W. Hewlett, Mr. H. Conyers, Miss Monica Marshall, Miss Lilian Christine, Miss Phyllis Stuckey, and Miss Mona Meyer.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. F. Verner Walford; A. M., Mr. H. S. Surfleet; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stevens.—This week: Walter Bird's company in "Her Husband"; Miss Ada Leach, vocalist; Master Frank Wilson, juvenile musician; Thomas Bentley, Dickensian character delineator; the Hassans, acrobatic wire specialists; Jock Mills, Scottish comedian; Clara Reid and John Power, in "The Chambermaid"; and Sid Doody and Edie Wright, in a comedy speciality.

GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—M. D., Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; R.M., Mr. George A. Deighton.—This week: The Picquays, entertainers; Risto Bros., in comedy acrobatic act; and pictures.

HALIFAX.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—This week: Halifax repertory season. The company includes: Lodge-Percy, J. W. Wilkinson, Harold Earle-Seamore, G. Edward-Hall, Eric Crowther, Theo. Gautier, Timon Massey, Molly Hayden, Dorrie Lawrence, Henrietta Schrier. This week: "His Excellency the Governor." Next week: "In the Soup."

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Joe Hinton.—This week: Mr. J. Millane's company in "A White Slave." Company includes: Mr. John S. Millward, Mr. J. O. Stewart, Mr. Edwin Maydew, Mr. Geo. Porteous, Mr. Oliver Seymour, Mr. W. Passmore, Mr. Oswald Peters, Mr. A. Williams, Mr. Arthur Ross, Mr. Frank Evans, Mr. James Nevill, Mr. John Miller, Mr. Fred James, Mr. Ernest Dutton, Mr. William Walsh, Miss Olga Jefferson, Miss V. St. Lawrence, Miss Mabel Rose. Next week: "When London Sleeps."

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Edgar O. Walling; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest A. Widdup.—This week: Frank Parker presents Rose Sartella and company in "Pick of the Bunch"; Harry Halsey in "Curtains"; Doreen O'Connor and company in "The Future Lady Wattean"; Nina Wood at the piano; Robb Wilton, comedian; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; Jenkins Bros., eccentric acrobats.

HAMILTON.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. R. C. Clayton; A. M., Mr. M. C. Byrne.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Burns and Co., in "Doon the Clyde"; Hosh and Hosken, comedians; Dave Summerhill, comedian; Tarry Rignold, in sketch, "Fido, the Bulldog Detective"; Marie Elliott, comedienne; the Ellesmere Troupe, trick cyclists; and the Goodalls, trampoline artistes.

HANLEY.

GRAND.—M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich.—This week: Gobert Belling, in animal act; Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, in "Two Tootie Toots"; S. W. Wyndham, comedian; Chris Baker, comedian; Hammond and Wyatt, in a novel vocal act; Marguerite Harold and John R. Bennett, in "Interruptions"; the Fitzroys, gymnasts; and pictures.

KING'S.—L., Mr. J. P. Moore; M., Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—This week: Dorien Ward, in illustrated songs; and Bert Evans, comedy merchant.

OLYMPIA.—P., Mr. Pat Collins; M., Mr. Robert Bew.—This week: Ambrose Barker's entertainers, the Corinthians.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; A. M., Mr. Sydney A. Harrison.—This week (once nightly): Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Mr. Henry Adnes presents "The Concert." The company includes: Messrs. Henry Adnes, William Greene, Geo. McGloskie, Vincent Godly, and Misses Irene Hentschell, Maud Aynesliffe, Fanny Wallace, Ivy Harcourt, Louise Long, Hilda Hoyes, Lilian Wallace, Hebe Elsna, and Celia Storm. T. M., Mr. Howard Crispin. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Messrs. B. Iden Payne and H. Theodore present "The Younger Generation." The company includes: Mr. Rupert Harvey, Miss Ethel St. Barbe, Miss Dorothy Kingsley, Mr. W. Bridges-Adams, Miss Eda Farmer, Mr. Joseph A. Keogh, Mr. Lionel Pancourt, Mr. Bertram Moore, Mr. Kenneth Bruce, Miss Katharine Herbert, and Mr. William Dexter. Preceded by "The Tallyman." T. M., Mr. William Dexter. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Speckled Band" and "A Butterfly on the Wheel."

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—L. & M., Mr. Albert Maxsted; Mus. D., Mr. Carter Staincliffe.—This week: The Mysterious Ryland and company; Florence Moody, vocalist; and pictures.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. A. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt.—This week: Last three nights "The Chocolate Soldier"; matinée, Saturday, 2.30 (Mr. Philip Michael Faraday's production).

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. Charles Hawker.—This week: Mr. Frank Fenton in "His House in Order." The company includes Messrs. Frank Fenton, Ashmore Vincent, Charles A. James, Frank McKee, David Kempe, Herbert J. Walton, Arthur Rylestone, Bernard Gold, Misses Rene Howard, Sara Mead, Beatrice Ranken, Brenda Harvey, Gwendolyn Carlisle. T. M., Mr. Herbert J. Walton.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

GAIETY.—P., Messrs. Hall and Ainsley; R. A. M., Mr. Robt. Ainsley; M. D., Mr. Alex. Schmidt.—This week: Mr. Wilson Howard presents "What Women Will Do for Love." The company includes: Miss Carlotta Anson, Miss Madge Clare, Miss Florence M. Daly, Messrs. Norton Shields, Frank Hertie, Gerald Smythe, Carl Vallender, E. Ashworth, Geo. Shreeve, A. E. Rose, H. Pitt, J. Leicester, T. H. Winter, and Wilson Howard.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Hall and Ainsley; M., Mr. W. H. Lindon Travers.—This week; Johnnie Dwyer, comedian; Arculas, instrumentalist, etc.; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. Fred Benton.—This week (once nightly) Gore Ouseley's Co., in "The Cingalee." Cast includes: E. Statham Staples, Sam Lockridge, Karl Beechey, John A. Howitt, Stanley Liston, Geo. Mudie, jun., Frank Bevan, Herbert Uzielli, S. A'Mandi, W. A. Reid, Amus Abdula, Rhua By, Daisy Lake, Hebe Bliss, Nancy Hanton, Queenie Lang, Violet Rees, Dora Courtenay, Eileen Brereton, Maisie May, Frances Northmore, Kitty Holmes, Cassie Langley, Nancy Townsend, Dorothy Gibbons, Nanetta Chilcotte, Gracie Austin, Mabel Ross, Jean Stewart, Mai Joyce, Joan Maxey, Cissie Sephton. T. M., Mr. E. P. Morgan. Next week: "An Indan Girl's Devotion."

HIPPODROME.—P., the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. S. Winks; Mus. D., Mr. T. Hoyle.—This week: Mr. J. L. Newton Cowling's Co. in the drama, "The Collier's Lass." Cast includes: Mr. David Curtis, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. William H. Melrose, Mr. Ben Carr, Mr. Bert Johnson, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Bella Moody, Miss Ellen Beverley, Miss Annie Graham, and Miss Edith Rutland.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank

"A Girl's Temptation" is a drama that meets all the calls of the Alexandra audiences, and its reception was most cordial. Miss Elizabeth Watkins plays the part of Kate Stirling excellently. Miss Lavender Leigh gave a good portrayal of Lady Constance Heathfield; Mr. Terence Byron's Guy Warren was very acceptable. The comic relief was suitably sustained by Miss Edith Medelle and Mr. Ed. Keith.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnes.—This week (twice nightly): "The Eternal Waltz"; Mlle. Haydee's Marionettes; Crystal and Saville in "Early Closing Night"; Robins-Collier Trio, in "Miss Bacon's Easter Egg"; Kitty Colyer, comedienne and dancer; Adam Tomlinson, comedian; Willie Bros., equilibrists; pictures.

TIVOLI.—P., Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby.—This week (twice nightly): Yamagata Japanese troupe; Kate and Tom Major, in "First Turn Again"; Edgar Curtis, lilliputian wonder; the Frohmans, in musical entertainment; Hal Rayne, baritone; Vera Caine, the athletic girl; Anita Correze, vocalist; Three Bros. Huxter, in languid energy; Gilbert Payne, comedian.

ILKESTON.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week: The Military Howards, in melody and comedy; Kromer, ventriloquist; Texas Comedy Four, in rag-time numbers; and pictures.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., the Ipswich Lyceum Co., Ltd.; L., Messrs. Muray King, Clark, and W. H. Savery; R. M., Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week: The Sheffield Répertoire Company, two nights and matinée, Oscar Wilde's comedy, "The Importance of Being Earnest." The company includes: Mr. Alfred Harding, Mr. Everard Vanderlip, Mr. Orlando Barnett, Miss Maud Kirwan, Miss May Saker, Miss Lily Fraser, Miss Glory Shannon, Mr. Alec Crighton, Mr. Julian D'Albi, Miss Dora Dant. Tuesday evening only, "Cupid and the Styx." Last three nights and matinée on Saturday, Mr. Alban B. Limpus and Cecile Barclay's company in "The Turning Point."

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; R. M., Mr. J. Gordon Bostock.—This week: "Under Suspicion," acted by Mr. Horace Hunter, Miss Lily Hammersley, and Mr. Lionel Braham; Mr. Alix Lukos, in historical episodes; Roma and Romani, instrumentalists; the Cowpers, comedy jugglers; the Bros. Artois, in comedy bar act; Miss Vera Hind, comedienne; Pop Carson, coon delineator; and pictures.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L. and M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; A. M. and S., Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Herbert Skardon presents "The Assassin." The company includes: Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews, Mr. Beckett Bould, Mr. Newton Pearce, Mr. Edward A. Brook, Mr. Leo R. Neilson, Mr. C. Barr, Mr. Fred Carter, Miss May Beatrice, Miss Nancy Mitchell, Miss Doris Brookes. Next week: "A Warning to Women."

EMPIRE.—P., The Jarrow Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Percy Dawsone.—This week: James Hare and company, in "Wrong 'Uns"; the Dancing Duggans; and pictures.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; M., Mr. A. Thompson.—This week: Oswald Williams and company; Jaster Sydney, dancer; Cliff Ryland, comedian; Ethel Dorine, comedienne; Benedetti Brothers, musical acrobats; and pictures.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Lillie Williams and Co.; M., Mr. Thomas Rodger.—This week: Mr. Edwin T. Hey's company in "Hindle Wakes." The cast includes: Messrs. Ed. Benson, Edward Cooper, Gerald Clifton, Harry Denvil, and the Misses Nellie Stott, Altona Stafford, Marie Grace, Dorothy Day, and Frances Kendall.

PALACE.—M., Mr. J. Cummings.—This week: Mint and Mart, comedy act; David Fuller, vocalist; and Graham Moffat's company in "The Concealed Bed."

LANCASTER.

GRAND.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; R. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite; Mus. D., Mr. John Parker.—Miss Lois du Cane's company in "For His King and the Girl He Loved." Cast includes: Mr. George Cruickshanks, Mr. William Lawrence, Mr. Ernest W. Parr, Mr. Frank Corfield, Mr. W. James, Mr. Allan Carruthers, Mr. Allan Young, Mr. C. Whiteman, Miss Gertrude Newham, Miss Maudie Ryder, Miss Beatrice Heron, and Miss Lois du Cane. T. M., Mr. Ernest W. Parr. Next week, "Motherless."

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. John Porter.—This week (twice nightly): Barry and Wood, comedy entertainers; E'sie French, vocalist: Jas. Houston and company, in "The Best Man"; Arthur Cartwright, baritone; Keeley Bros., athletes; and pictures.

LEEDS.

GRAND.—M. D. & Licensee, Mr. John Hart.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Ernest E. Norris presents "The Walls of Jericho." Cast includes: Mr. Ernest E. Norris, Mr. Edward A. Wheeler, Mr. Harold Greaves, Mr. R. Watt, Mr. Charles Melling, Mr. Jack Hellier, Mr. Gerald Norden, Mr. C. Dashwood, Mr. Frederick Valder, Miss Viola March, Miss Agnes Bruce Smith, Miss Beryl Paul, Miss Mary Kingsley, Miss Marjorie Clutterbuck, Miss May Hobson, Miss Eily O'Donohoe, and Miss Ray Parry. Next week: "The Glad Eye."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Francis Laidler; G. M., Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth; A. M., Mr. G. H. Almond.—This week (twice nightly): Travis Green and Graham Winsford present "The Pride of the Prairie." Cast includes: Graham Winsford, William Hayes, Percy Morton Wright, George Mitchell, Arthur Duval, Harry Sidney, Henry Goodier, C. Young Fixott, William Cann, J. J. Stadden, G. Leslie Buxton, Walter Hicks, Cecil Harding, Lina Treherne, Leonard Gardener, Frank Shirley, Jack Entwistle, Ben Batty, Ernest Williams, Henry Hurst, Fred Horning, Julius Werner, Alfred Sooper, Rita Royne, Elsie Dene, Louie Campbell, Ethel Bickham. T. M., Mr. Graham Winsford. Next week: "No Mother to Guide Her."

QUEEN'S. — P., Mr. Fred W. Wood; M. and Licensee, Mr. Charles Bush.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Lodge-Percy and Miss Henrietta Schrier present "The Woman He Wanted." Cast includes: Mr. Walter Clarke, Mr. Percival Coyte, Mr. Will Kirk, Mr. T. Weston Fields, Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson, Mr. William S. Allen, Mr. Frederick Johnson, Mr. Theo Gautier, Mr. Reginald Winter, Mr. Harold Montague, Miss T. King, Miss Hilary Burleigh, Miss Tina Langlois, Miss Gladys Carton, Miss Margaret Tueskie. Matinée, Monday, 2.30. Next week: "A Girl's Good Luck."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M. and Licensee, P. C. Rowe.—This week (twice nightly): Chas. Austin and Co., in "The Bombshell"; Rosie Sylvester, comedienne; Marie Santoi, in "A Night in Japan"; Bert Byrne and Lady, in "On Blackpool Pier"; Green and Wood; Harry Blake, comedian; Bissett and Scott, dancers; Walter Lambert; Friend and Downing, comedy couple; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—R. M. and Licensee, Mr. Bertram Brown.—This week (twice nightly): Erard's company in "Shepherdland"; Mina Gordon, mimic; Blake and Granby, comedy duo; J. P. Ling, comedian; Doris Hunter, the mighty atom; R. S. Beresford and company in "The Cowboy's Redemption"; Mayme Remington, in "The Ragtime Piccaninny Revue"; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, entertainers; and pictures.

VARIETIES CITY PALACE.—P., and Licensee, Mr. Fred W. Wood; M., Mr. Harry Dunford; Assist. M., Mr. Fox Nelson.—This week (twice nightly): Checker and Hazel, in rag-time; the Forders; La Razcka Trio, jugglers and acrobats; Mona May, singer; Will B. Willby, comedian; Cheer's Educated Cats; and pictures.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., the Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. James Bibby; Mus. D., Mr. H. W. Goldstraw.—This week (twice nightly): Bobby Leach, the Englishman who beat Niagara; the Two Cherubs, vocalists and dancers; Day and Deen, comedians and dancers; and pictures.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., the Leek Skating Rink Co., Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; G. M., Mr. George Salt; A. M., Mr. George E. Gough; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week (twice nightly): The Cornetties, cornet soloists, in musical act; Wee Bertie Burton, comedian; the Juggling Folettes, assisted by their performing dog "Beauty"; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Mus. C., Herr Theo Klee.—A rare treat is provided here this week by the reappearance of the D'Oyly Carte Repertoire Company, who are presenting a delightful selection of Gilbert and Sullivan operas, including "The Mikado," "The Gondoliers," "Iolanthe," "Princess Ida," "The Pirates of Penzance," and "The Yeomen of the Guard." It is hardly necessary to say the return of such big favourites as Mr. Fred Billington and Mr. Henry A. Lytton, who appeared respectively as Pooh-Bah and Ko-Ko in the first-named opera on Monday evening, secured for them a really fine reception from all sections of the audience. Mr. Leicester Tunks both sang and acted well in the name part, and Mr. Henry Herbert as Nanki-Poo, and Mr. Sydney Granville as Pish-Tush, were also seen and heard to advantage. Miss Louie Rene proved a splendid success as Katisha, and Miss Olive Turner as Yum Yum established herself as a great favourite, her singing being far above the average, and her whole embodiment a delightful one. Miss Beatrice Roarer scored a well-deserved success as Pitti-Sing, as also did Miss Ethel George as Peep-Bo. The chorus, a specially selected one, go through their work in splendid style under the direction of Mr. Walter Hann. The madrigal, "Brightly dawns our wedding day," was repeatedly encored, and the other concerted items were also hugely appreciated. The mounting and dressing of the operas are of the usual high standard of this company.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; A. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner; Mus. C., Mr. J. H. Vann. Mr. Derwent Hall Caine and company is here this week, presenting the popular play, "The Manxman," in which Mr. Derwent Hall Caine himself sustains the part of Pete Quilliam.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Stewart; Mus. C., Mr. John W. Lowe.—There is again a strong programme here, the place of honour being allotted to Mr. Ernest Edelsten's company in the interesting morality play, "Everybody," the chief parts in which are done full justice to by Miss Harrison Sheffield (Pleasure), Mr. Lawrence Leyton (Shirk), Mr. S. Wynn (Old Sport), Mr. G. H. Mulcaster (Everybody), Miss Daphne George (Luck and Fortune), Mr. L. Somerville (Work), Mr. Wyn Weaver (Honesty), and Mr. Chris Walker (Advice). At the other end of the bill is George French, whose clever rag-time parody song on his matrimonial troubles keeps the audience in a continual roar of merriment. Herr Doring's trained pigeons are put through a most interesting performance; and Rich and Rich are a pair of mirth-provoking comedians; Harry Grey is receiving his usual hearty reception, his make-up as a prima donna convulsing the audience; Stylo, who is assisted by a smart young lady as a wooden shoe dancer, does a clever juggling turn with hoops; Elsie Roby is a lively slavey at the piano, her dancing being excellent; and Olive Armidale proves an attractive comedienne. The bioscope completes.

PAVILION THEATRE. — P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. C., Mr. Fred Britcher.—A good show here includes a number of artistes who are making a first appearance in the town. The Four Powers present a pretty, refined musical scena with success, and the Six Gordons (five ladies and one gentleman) are very good in their comedy, vocal, and dancing scena, "At the Terminus," with Harry Morgan as the ticket collector; Michael Madden shines as a clever dame comedian; the Ladringlos, the golden athletes, are a success with their sensational act; Victor Courtney is an amusing musical comedian; and both Annie Oliver, with catchy chorus songs, and Rita Moya, rag-time comedienne and speciality dancer, also present acceptable turns. The 1913 Grand National is shown on the bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., The New Bioscope Trading Co.; R. M., Mr. Charles R. Craig.—Teddy Rudkin, a popular and well-known light comedian and mandolinist, is successfully appearing here. There is the usual varied assortment of pictures.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole L., Messrs. F. Gould and G. Jordon; G. M., Mr. Geo. Jordon; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Haydock.—This week: Mr. Jas. Haydock; and pictures.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—S. & A. M., Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—This week: Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, in "The Slave Girl." The company includes: Messrs. H. Arnold Allen, Fred Rivers, T. Edward Ward, Karl Edwards, Victor Cannon, Misses Phena Powell, Rosie Kearns, Kitty Rennior, Gem Lloyd and Ward. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

LEITH.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. R. Graham-Youll; G. M., Mr. R. M. Stratmore; Mus. D., Mr. John Crossley.—This week (twice nightly): Oswald Bemand, conjurer and card manipulator, with his trained birds; the Four Behans, vocalists and dancers, in a quick-change act; and pictures. Matinée on Saturday at 2.30.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Company, Limited; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Jullien H. Wilson.—The present visit of the Quinlan Opera company to Liverpool was looked forward to with exceptional interest by reason of the fact that for the first time music-lovers here were to be accorded an opportunity of witnessing Wagner's "Ring" in its entirety. That the celebrated operatic combination would do full justice to the great master's work was never questioned, their previous appearance in the Mersey city having left behind pleasant memories of their brilliant powers. The anticipations were in no wise disappointed. On Monday the week's stay was opened by an excellent rendering of Verdi's "Rigoletto," the chief interest of which lay in the initial appearance here of Miss Felice Lyne, an accomplished young soprano, who, whilst a member of Oscar Hammerstein's company, impressed London. Her vocalism in the rôle of Gilda held the audience spellbound, and several times rapturous applause was extended to her. Miss Lyne undoubtedly scored a triumph. Mr. W. J. Samuell, as Rigoletto, also shared the honours of the evening, and he must have been highly gratified by the warmth of the well-merited reception given to him. Mr. Maurice D'Oisly undertook the rôle of the Duke with every credit, and admirably sang the numbers allotted to him. Sparafucile found in Mr. Robert Veevers an able exponent; and other fine artistes concerned were Miss Gladys Ancrum (Maddalena) and Mr. Arthur Wynne (Monterone). Mr. Tullio Voghera was in charge of the orchestra. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings were devoted to the "Ring." The opening part, "The Rhinegold," was given with a completeness and finish which reflected upon the Quinlan interpreters the highest possible credit, and the large audience on Tuesday were unanimous in voting it a remarkable artistic effort. Mr. W. J. Samuell played Alberich with strong dramatic expression, his singing giving evidence of rare vocal talent; a dignified Wotan was Mr. Robert Parker, whose rich voice, especially in the declamatory passages, was one of the treats of the performance; thanks were particularly due to Mr. Maurice D'Oisly for his admirable Loge; the Donner of Mr. Graham Marr afforded every satisfaction; the three Rhine maidens were exquisitely impersonated by the Misses Alice Prowse, Nita Edwards, and Mabel Dennis, the singing of the first-named being particularly sweet; and valuable work was also done by Messrs. Arthur Wynn and Karl von Cochem (the giants Fasolt and Fafner), Miss Edna Thornton (Fricka), Miss Jeanne Brola (Freia), and Mr. Sydney Russell (a quaint Mime). The staging was a great feature, and Herr Richard Eckhold had masterly command of the orchestra. "Tales of Hoffmann" and "Faust" were given on Saturday.

SHAKESPEARE.—M. D., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. John Gaffney; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Shea.—Here Paul J. Rainey's "African Hunt" pictures have put in a third week, with daily matinée.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. Noel Vincent.—The stock company here this week gave a particularly good presentation of "The Shaughraun," which was produced by Mr. E. D. Allen, and staged in praiseworthy manner. Thanks were due to Mr. J. Scott Leighton for his spirited Conn; as Moya, Miss Jessie Scott excelled; Claire ffolliott was sweetly acted by Miss F. Melrose Millett; the rôle of Captain Molineux found a good exponent in Mr. John Davidson; the villainy of Harvey Duff was well brought out by Mr. Frank Caffrey; and good work was also done by Messrs. Clifford Marle (Robert ffolliott), Edward Beecher (Father Dolan), G. E. Butler (Corry), Miss Dulcie Lawrence (Mrs. O'Kelly), and Miss Josephine Colona (Arte O'Neal).

REPERTORY.—G. M., Mr. Basil Dean; B. M., Mr. T. J. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—Large audiences have this week revelled in Anstey's clever farcical comedy, "The Man—from Blankley's," the work being admirably presented by the Repertory company. Mr. Wilfred Shine proved delightfully humorous in the character of Gabriel Gilwattle; Mr. J. H. Roberts was particularly rich as the superior butler, Dawes; Miss Estelle Winwood made a dainty Marjory Seaton; the youngish part of Gwendoline Tidmarsh was delightfully presented by Miss Ellinor Arup; Mr. Basil Dean very naturally impersonated Lord Strathpeffer; as Mrs. Tidmarsh, Miss Aida Jenoure was entirely successful; and included among other well-defined parts were those of Montague Tidmarsh (Mr. Lawrence Hanray), Mr. Poffley (Mr. Algernon Greig), Miss Flinders (Miss Eileen Thorndike), and Jeremiah Ditchwater (Mr. Shiel Barry).

KELLY'S.—L., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Reginald Grant; Mus. D., Mr. J. A. Gardner.—Great business has been done here this week by reason of the welcome return visit of Alexander Marsh and company, who have presented an excellent selection of plays. On Monday evening they opened with "A Tale of Two Cities," the thrilling incidents of which were closely followed by a large and deeply interested audience. The cast did full justice to the dramatic arrangement of Dickens' fine novel. In the part of Sydney Carton, Mr. Alexander Marsh impressed his audience; Miss Carrie Baillie showed much tenderness as the grieved Lucie Manette; Mr. Wilson Gunning thoroughly grasped the part of Charles Darney; Mr. Ian Fleming very touchingly enacted Dr. Manette; and as the scheming Defarge, Mr. J. William Mollison acted with dramatic strength. The other plays of the week were "David Garrick," "Sleigh Bells," "Midsummer Night's Dream," "Oliver Twist," "Bishop's Candlesticks," "Taming of the Shrew," "Nell Gwynne," "Merchant of Venice," and "Three Musketeers."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners; Asst. M., Mr. Arthur Hicks; Mus. D., Mr. George M. Saker.—The name of Harry Tate is so well known in Liverpool that whenever he appears at one of the places of amusement he is bound to prove a big draw. Such has been the case this week, for his "Fishing" skit has convulsed people with laughter; another big hit was the always-welcome Chirgwin, who remains in the affections of thousands; the Paris Trio had a remarkable and humorous aerial gymnastic display; Blockson and Burns, as burlesque equilibrists, provoked great merriment; Fennel and Tyson proved very successful with their funniosities; Percival pleased with his burlesques; possessed of a rich bass voice, J. H. Scotland rendered several numbers in capital style; and Jenny Hartley earned applause for her singing and dancing.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. H. C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mr. R. Klasse.—Heading the bill here this week was Joe O'Gorman, the popular comedian and raconteur, who brought his latest. He had a most cordial reception. Great laughter followed the antics of Ted Karno and company with their pantomime sketch, "The Dinner Hour"; the Five Yorkshire Lasses gave an enjoyable and pretty turn as singers and dancers; a smart eccentric act came from Silent Tait and Aimee; the O'Malleys presented a new comedy trifle which was received with enthusiasm; Bombardier Morris sang soldier songs in stirring style; and others in the programme were Leo, comedian; and Hugo, comedy jumper.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. George F. Slatter; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Braham.—Here, twice nightly, an able company, in charge of Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood, have been this week pleasing large audiences with a new musical play, entitled "Allah's Orchard," which was staged in excellent style. Mr. Arthur Hinton gave a really clever portrayal of Prince Barona; and Miss Zillwood was popular in the rôle of Muriel Dugarde. Included in a lengthy cast, who did well, were Messrs. Frank McClellan (John Waring), Mark Adams (Mahomet Ali), Arthur Kland (Mizza), David Phillips (Tony Smart), Miss Paulin Haydon (principal dancer), Miss Ethel Monton (Kitty Carrington), and Miss Norma Craig (Dorothy Tate). There was a powerful chorus.

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here have throughout the week given a presentation twice nightly of "When it Was Dark," among the principal artistes being Messrs. Paul Neville (Rev. Basil Gortre), Henry Carlisle (Constantine Schwabe), R. Seath Innes (Harold Spence), Leo Montgomery (Charlie Gayfly), Miss Lalla Stanhope (Helena Byars), and Miss Gwynne Warren (Gertrude Hunt).

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—The great attraction here this week is the water spectacle, "Siberia," a notice of which appears in another column. One of the best turns in the variety portion of the entertainment, Weiland, proved particularly enjoyable. His eccentricities on Monday evening were a grand treat. The popular Charles Whittle, the well-known comedian, had a cordial reception; Hedges Brothers and Jacobsen introduced some smart ragtime melodies; the Daunton-Shaw troupe of cyclists displayed great expertness; and also in the list were Ferguson and Mack; and Arthur Astill, mimic.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Here this week good business has been done with Mr. Walter Howard's drama, "Her Love against the World." Mr. Edmund Kennedy ably impersonated Eric Strathmere; Miss Mary Pemberton was delightful as Iris; and valuable support came from Miss Rossie St. John (Lionel), Mr. Lewis Gilbert (Prince Ulric), Mr. W. H. Hallatt (Prince Othmar), Mr. Henry Hallatt (Prince Maurice), and Miss Hetty Ferguson (Corona). An addition to the evening's entertainment was Edward Marris's "Faking the Film," which caused screams of laughter. There was also a daily matinée of animated pictures, entitled "Nature's Zoo," presented by Cherry Kearton.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S.—P., Longton Theatre Ltd.; G. M., Mr. H. Sherriff Howard.—This week (twice nightly): The Queen's Repertory Co. in "The Bellringer" on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; and "Jane Shore" on Friday and Saturday. The company includes: Mr. Terry Davies, Mr. Ernest R. Allen, Miss Winnie Warden, Mr. Frank Pettingell, Mr. F. B. Woulfe, Mr. William Gardiner, Mr. James Salter, Mr. Alfred Wade, Mr. Arthur Gordon, Mr. James Meadows, Mr. Alfred Waghorne, Mr. Albert Wooton, Miss Gertrude Glanmor, Miss Mary Wheatley, Miss Edith Loraine, Miss Marie Ensor, Miss Amy McNeill, Miss Nancy Newell, Miss Maud Elliott. Next week: "The Octoroon."

LOUGHBOROUGH.

VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Graham Hylton.—This week: The Coronets, in melody and mirth; Jerry Lemon and Co., comedians; and pictures.

LUTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; B. M., Mr. Louis J. Beard.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath present "The Balkan Princess." The company includes: Mr. J. Warren Foster, Mr. Fred Seymour, Mr. Alec Bolton, Mr. A. H. Reid, Mr. J. E. Swinburne, Mr. H. Spawton, Mr. Charles Apsey, Mr. J. S. Durant, Mr. Freddie Bentley, Mr. Edmond Russell, Miss Nancy Buckland, Miss Gladys Johnson, Miss Beryl Brodie, Miss Violet Gilette, Miss Helen Franks, Miss D. Sinsfield, Miss M. Cole, Miss Violet Tremayne, Miss Ray Gordon, Miss Cissie Vaughan. T. M., Mr. A. J. Nicholls. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

MAIDENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. George Gude.—This week: Nat Travers' company; Mazeppa and Zilla, second-sight; Florrie Delamere; Jack Thurston; Jack Beard; the Dacey Brothers, dancers; and Nat Travers, in original songs.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Licensee & M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. Edmonstone Shirra; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Chambers.—Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter present here this week "Doormats." A bright interpretation is given, Mr. Pennington-Gush being notably successful as Noel Gale, and an attractive impersonation of Leila being rendered by Miss Deborah Volar, a favourite with local playgoers. Mr. Percy Marshall as Sir Rufus Gale, and Miss Lucy Beaumont as Josephine, his wife, contribute cleverly to the effect, and the other parts are capably filled by Mr. H. Stuart Dennison as Capt. Harding and Miss Julie Birton as Harrison, the maid. The piece is preceded by The Entertainers, in selections from "The Quaints'" repertoire, presented by Mr. R. B. Salisbury.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—M. D. & Licensee, Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. George Lee; Mus. D., Mr. Charles W. Chambers.—Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Opera Company opened their Verdi Festival week here on Monday with a fine performance of "Rigoletto." A notable acquisition to the company is Signor E. Ventura, who has a rich and pure voice, and who sang admirably as the Duke of Mantua. Signora Barona rendered the exacting soprano music of Gilda very finely, and Signor Vail repeated his previous success in the title-part. Other noteworthy performances were those of Signora Evarti, who undertook the contralto part of Maddalena, and Signora Vittori, whose fine bass voice was heard to advantage as Sparafucile. The audience displayed remarkable enthusiasm, encores being numerous. On Tuesday an equally successful performance of "Ernani" was given, the other operas for the week being "Il Trovatore," "Traviata," "Un Ballo in Maschera," "Cavalleria Rusticana," and "Pagliacci."

NEW THEATRE.—M., Mr. Arthur Hardy; Licensee and R. M., Mr. Richard Flanagan.—A capital performance of "A Butterfly on the Wheel" was given here on Monday by Mr. Arthur Hardy's principal company. Miss Frances Titheradge filled the title-rôle, that of Peggy, with a fine sense of lightness and innocence in the earlier scenes, rising to great heights of power and emotion as the drama progressed, to the climax of the divorce-court ordeal. In relation to the latter, Mr. Herbert Greville gave a strong and masterful rendering of Sir Robert Fyffe, the relentless leading counsel. As the scheming and impassioned Roderick Collingwood, Mr. T. A. Shannon, acted with fine sincerity, and the smaller but effective rôle of Admaston was ably filled by Mr. O. Powis Griffiths. Another clever performance was that of Miss Daisy Cordell as Lady Atwill, chiefly in conjunction with the amusing comedy of Mr. Douglas Greet as Lord Ellerdine; while the Pauline of Miss Violet Greville was noteworthy as a convincing little character sketch. Big houses are attracted.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Brearley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Colton.—Messrs. George A. De Grey and Harry Masterman are presenting here a stirring Western romance, "The Indian Scout." Mr. George A. De Grey (who is also the author) has a picturesque part as Sleeping Water, the Indian, which he fills in effective style; and to Mr. Max Coutts is entrusted the sinister rôle of Juan de Courcelles, the leader of the horse thieves; Miss Violet Ingram makes an interesting and charming Marjorie Graham; Mr. David Blair is well placed as Jack Tempest; and among many other striking parts Mr. Seymour Perry as the twin Twitchetts, and Miss Kitty Fitzgerald as Lucy Silome Dent, contribute some welcome humour. The play is well staged.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. C. W. Meek; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bleasdale.—A very good all-round programme here includes Harry Anderson, the London vocalist; Ada Fawn, the popular comedienne, in latest songs; the Sisters Grant, juvenile American buck dancers; Mark Leslie, the swell coon; Picquo, comedy gymnast; the Aerial Nelsons, novelty gymnasts; the Three Stowe Bros., comedy acrobats and equilibrists; Millie and Gordon Trio, in song, dance, and acrobatic speciality; and Lillian Carter, the talented soprano.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. C. H. Bayley.—Fred Granville's Productions (Limited) Company are playing here in the sensational drama, "At the Mercy of the Mormons," depicting the operations of Mormonism in California. Mr. Pat Sullivan plays with skill and vigour as Ruddy Roger, "the Boss"; Mr. Tom Roydan scores as Ezra Higbee, the masquerading Mormon elder; and Mr. A. B. Lyons acts well as Mexican Jake, Roger's jealous rival; while a very good performance is given by Miss Edith Giddings as Ruth Marlow; Miss Hazel Dent is smart as Lucy Harris, "the little 'un"; and Miss Alice Maude plays cleverly as Stumpy Liz, "the Jersey Lily." Humour is ably provided by Mr. James Mailey as Ebenezer Guffy, Mr. Walter Leahair as Slim Jim, and Mr. Ambrose Pinder as Wishee Washee.

JUNCTION THEATRE.—P., Messrs. William Broadhead and Son; Asst. M., Mr. John Mason.—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's company are once more entertaining local audiences in "The Pet of the Ranch," Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's successful Western play. Mr. A. Austin Leigh as Philip Trelyan and Miss Iza Lyndon as Zelda are the principal characters, well supported by Mr. Stephen Langton as Mexican Joe, Miss Grace Jones as Kate Trelyan, and Mr. Harry Lyndon as Reindeer, an Indian. Mr. Harold Bell has also a good part as the comic nigger boy, Sammy. All the other rôles are ably filled, and the play is picturesquely staged.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—The Seven Bramusas, an accomplished family of musicians, are prominent on the bill here this week, while another important turn are the Oakes Duo, in a very funny sketch, "Women's Rights" the Bill Toppers, a musical absurdity, presented by Mr. A. Victor, is highly entertaining; the Three Buckleys are very smart in their electrical novelty; Margaret Doris and her Football Dogs are a distinctly clever turn; Tom Cullen, the Irish singer, is well received; Kitty Trewhitt is a dainty comedienne and dancer; the Eight Stella Girls contribute some good songs and dancing; and Truro and Bruce, comedians and dancers, are an entertaining couple.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Horace Cocks; Mus. C., Mr. R. Hardwick.—James Learmouth in "The Station Master" provides some screaming fun here this week. Miss Beaumont Collins and company in "The Leaves" give a welcome touch of drama, which is very well received. The Two Anartos add a capital comedy turn; and other excellent business is submitted by Nelson Jackson, entertainer; Les Austros, in a gymnastic interlude; Molly Drew, contralto vocalist; Cole de Losse, comedians on the wire; Bert Marsden, comedian and entertainer; and the Two Lacoris, brilliant trapezists.

HIPPODROME.—P., Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Horace Cole; Asst. M., Mr. Arthur G. Trussell; Mus. D., Mr. Alfred Haines.—Madame Lydia Yavorska and Co. in "Lolotte" is the big turn here, in which the principal's fine dramatic work is enthusiastically appreciated. Wood and Green, the Army captains, are also prominently good in their Society entertainment. Other attractive features are Scamp and Scamp, comedy acrobats; Albert Rees, the entertainer with a phenomenal voice; Smaragda's Cats, feline wonders; Mlle. Sara Melita, singer from the Royal Opera House, Malta; the Sisters Reeve, refined duettists; and the Pekin Mysteries, including Hang Ping Chien, in conjuring and acrobatic feats.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Peter Watson; S. & Asst. M., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Gaggs.—Leo Stormont tops the bill here in a spoof sketch. "N. G. . . . ! !" The Harmony Four, in their original musical comedy, are also prominent, and well received; a fine turn is added by the Three Rubes, whose fun is excruciating and wildly popular; and the remainder of an excellent programme is provided by Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians; Eddie Lawler, comedian and dancer; the Villions, comedy cyclists and eccentrics; Grace Hazard, the laughing comedienne; Flora Cromer, contralto entertainer; and Fred Duprez, American humorist.

KING'S.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; G.M., Mr. Harry Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. J. R. Trippett; Mus. D., Mr. David Booth.—Mr. Oswald Cray and Co. are appearing here in H. F. Housden's drama, "The Mormon and His Wives," which is popular with local audiences. Mr. Oswald Cray retains his part of the Rev. Dudley Wade, and Miss Sybil Hare gives a sympathetic rendering of Nellie Weardale; other good parts are well played by Mr. Clifton Earle and Mr. William H. Burton.

TIVOLI.—P., Tivoli, Manchester, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; A. M., Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Neilson.—Here the Paulastos present the Live Waiters in a clever acrobatic ragtime comedy act. Mary Law, a pleasing young violinist, plays several selections in excellent style, and meets with a good reception. Olive Tempest and company are seen to advantage in a novelty act; and Jack Walsh is a capital comedian. Other entertaining items are offered by Jess and Tony, comedy couple; the Brothers Erard, novel musical acrobatic comedians; Jennie Lynwood, Scotch comedienne; and Edith Courtney, vocal comedienne. Ruffell's bioscope pictures complete.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—L., The Alhambra (Manchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. H. D. Moorhouse; G. M., Mr. Arthur Evanson; S., Mr. T. Edward Gick; S. M., Mr. D. J. McFarlane; Mus. D., Mr. J. Harney. This week (twice nightly): Mr. Tom H. Taylor presents "East Lynne." The company includes: Mr. Harry Tresham, Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. Percy Boucher, Mr. John Belton, Mr. Ivor Smith, Mr. William A. Armour, Mr. J. Templar Ellis, Miss Mary Dawson, Miss Frances J. May, Miss Molly Hackett, Little Doris Smeaton, Miss Louise Hampton. T. M. and Producer, Mr. Percy Boucher. Next week: "The Labour Leader."

OPENSHAW ALHAMBRA. — L., Alhambra (Manchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. H. D. Moorhou

OUR AMATEURS.

It is pleasant to be able to praise such a good all-round performance as that of the Ellesmere Club's production of "Mrs. Dot" at the Cripplegate Theatre recently. The Ellesmere Club have not been content to stand still, and this, their twelfth performance, showed a distinct advance on former productions. The piece was under the direction of Mr. Cyril Lawrence. Though Miss Mollie Butt has not the exact temperament for the ideal Mrs. Dot, her presentment of the frank and free relict of "Worthley's Entire" was charmingly conceived and brightly carried out. Mr. Percy Friend was decidedly good, and made every point as the cynical James Blenkinsop; and Mr. Harry D. Bennett was effective as Gerald Halstane. Mr. John E. Davies, happily cast for the part of Mrs. Dot's nephew and secretary, Freddie Perkins, played it in just the right spirit, and was well supported in amusing by-play by Miss Nessie Thompson as Nellie Sellenger. Miss Frances McCallum did not attempt any pronounced Scotticisms as Miss Eliza Macgregor, but was always in the picture as that quietly humorous and eminently useful person. Mr. Ernest S. Howland underlined all his points as the impassive, yet pervasive Charles; Mr. Harold Edwards was a smart Bond-street tailor, and Messrs. Gilbert Wood and Fred Donaldson as harmless but necesеary servants all contributed to a good result. The club's orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. Duncan Porteous, played very pleasantly during the evening.

The Streatham A.O.S., though only in its third year, recently completed its fifth season by the very successful production of "Patience" at the Streatham Hall, under the direction of Mr. T. J. Lamb. Mr. Lamb, in addition to his duties as stage-manager and producer, took the part of Bunthorne, and made a complete success as the fleshly poet. Miss Frances Glenister was a majestic Lady Jane, her fine contralto voice and artistic acting being of great value. Miss Ethel Wood, in spite of the handicap of a bad cold, played spiritedly as Patience; Mr. G. A. C. Sandberg was a robust Col. Calverley, particularly commendable for his clear enunciation; Mr. Jack C. Stacey sang and acted well as Major Murgatroyd, and Mr. Bernard C. Robinson completed the trio of officers with a very good sketch of the commonplace young man. Mr. W. G. L. Cheriton's good voice was well found in the "Prithee, pretty maiden" and "Silver churn" numbers, the latter winning a double encore, but his Archibald appeared almost overwhelmed by the "love-sick maidens," capitally led by Misses H. Morton, E. A. Priestley, and Mabel M. Morison as the Ladies Angela, Saphir and Ella. The Ampleforth Orchestral Society, under the capable leadership of Mr. Archie Easton, accompanied admirably throughout, and the work of the chorus was commendably and uniformly good.

The recent performance of "Tantalising Tommy" by the Allan Aynesworth D.C. at Cripplegate Theatre was in aid of the funds of the Church of England Waifs' and Strays' Society. Mr. Edmund Daly, who as Harry Killick pervades the first scene, was unfortunately not at all at home in his lines. Mr. Daly has done a great deal of good work in the past, and his uncertainty on this occasion is more to be regretted, as it is difficult to estimate how much the work of the other actors was affected by his lapses. Mr. Alfred Protheroe's Jimmy was a careful picture of the shy civil servant who is taken by storm by the enterprising Tommy. Miss Dora Downing romped through the part of Tommy, and made an effective appearance in the fleeting "pyjama" scene. Miss Marguerite Leiper gave a very clever study of the maid, Bertha, and Mr. Angus Arthur was also natural and good as the chauffeur, Jenninge. Mr. Henri T. Bliss, as Jack Mason, showed what can be done with a small part; Mr. Sydney E. Rist as Frank Ricketts was also good, and Mr. Kenneth M. Harrison played adequately as the indulgent father, Thos. H. Pepper. Mr. John Glover, looking rather young for Mr. Tathem, Miss Una Brooke as an appropriately colourless Elsie Tathem, and Mr. Edmund W. Nicholls as Lord Enderby, did all that was required of them. The play was produced under the direction of Mr. H. Francis Wager.

The Golder's Green Operatic Society recently gave a spirited performance of the comedy opera "Dorothy" at the Wellington Hall, St. John's Wood. A pleasing feature was the excellent quality of the acting, as well as of the singing of the principal performers, and the attention to the details of the production, which reflects much credit on both producer and conductor, Mr. Edward Charles and Mr. Conrad King, and on Miss Nancy Borrett, who was responsible for the arrangement of the dances. Miss Jessie Rose was a capital and charming Dorothy, and acted and sang very spiritedly. Miss Nina Ffonora made a great success as Phyllis, singing with much expression, her tender lyric in bridal dress being deservedly encored. Miss Daisy Cook's Priscilla Privett was a genuine comedy study, and her scene with Mr. Fred H. Isitt, an inimitable Lurcher, was excellently played. Mr. Edward Charles, in addition to his managerial duties, took the part of Harry Sherwood, and had to respond to an encore for the popular "Queen of my heart" song. Mr. Charles F. Cheshir's Squire Bantam, and the Geoffrey Wilder of Mr. Lionel Walter, were both good studies. The opera was deservedly applauded by the enthusiastic and well-pleased audiences which filled the hall on both occasions.

The dramatic performance, with musical and vocal entertainment, recently given by the Chelsea Conservative Club before a crowded house at the Royal Court Theatre, was thoroughly successful and enjoyable. The dramatic portion of the programme, performed by amateur members of the Club, consisted of the little one-act domestic comedy drama "Our Lottie," by Mr. C. S. Fawcett, and Mr. L. N. Parker's play, "The Man in the Street." In both these little pieces Mr. C. W. Glassington (who produced) was distinguished for his very clever and forcible acting of the part of the unctuous, snaky Mr. Catterpole, and of the "man in the street," Jabez Gover, his make-up for both parts being weirdly realistic. Mr. Walter Hitch was also excellent as the old general dealer, Nicholas, particularly good being his rendering of the trying explanatory speech about Lottie. He showed his versatility by being equally good in the part of the kindly young artist, Philip Adare. Miss Kitty Bassett played charmingly as Lottie; Mr. Ernest Tidmarsh, as Edward Esher, though word-perfect, was rather too colourless and subdued; Mr. Frank Burgess was capital as the illiterate young Nick. The part of the artist's young wife in the second piece was prettily acted by Miss Isabel Ormonde. The musical and vocal part of the entertainment, which was under the direction of Mr. Arthur Helmore, was contributed to by several popular and well-known artistes, who generously gave their services. Mr. Charles Collette had a great reception in his musical and patter sketch, "The Thirteen Club"; Mr. Sam Walsh recited his own clever compositions at the piano; Mr. Arthur Helmore was inimitable in his mimetic "Pageant of Poetry"; Mr. Stuart Debnam told some new and amusing stories in the course of his humorous interlude; and two clever child dancers, Master Gerald and Miss Enid St. Ruth, were wonderfully graceful and active. Miss Lucy Weston's songs at the harp (with 'cello obbligato by Mr. Chas. Winfield) were much appreciated, and Mr. Seymour Dicker rendered excellent service at the piano throughout the evening.

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On Saturday an amateur dramatic performance was given in aid of the church funds at St. Anne's Hall, Highgate. Sir Arthur Pinero's play, "The Money Spinner," was chosen for the evening's entertainment, which was keenly appreciated by an enthusiastic audience. The company worked well together, and must be congratulated on a very successful performance. Miss Muriel Isaac sympathetically portrayed the heroine, coming out especially well in the celebrated card-playing scene. Mr. George Brown gave distinction to the character of Lord Kengussie, and lost none of the humour of the rôle. Miss G. Isaac was very natural and bright as Dorinda Croodle. Mr. A. Kingdom Noakes gave good support as Harold Boycott, playing with a reserve force which was appropriate. Mr. H. E. Borkett was quietly effective as Jules Faubert, although his make-up was a little too pronounced. Mr. W. B. Kelly was débonair and distinctly humorous as Baron Croodle, losing none of the comicality of the character. His make-up and bearing were excellent. Miss Clara Jecks as Margot only had a few words to say, but, small as the part was, Miss Jecks with her quaint personality endowed it with importance. "The Money Spinner" was followed by "Between the Soup and the Savoury." In this the part of the cook, Maria, was well played by Miss Muriel Isaac. Miss Ella Taylor was natural and bright as Ada, the parlourmaid. Miss Clara Jecks made the character of Emily, the kitchen drudge, stand out by her inimitable talent. Her droll nod sent the audience into fits of laughter, and the pathos displayed by her in the reading of the stolen love-letter was exquisite. To look at Miss Jecks it seems but yesterday that she was playing low comedy lead in the Adelphi dramas, and her example evidently braced the rest of the company up to a high standard. All concerned are to be congratulated, and richly deserved the unstinted applause of the audience.

The Cowper-street Old Boys' Club musical section recently celebrated its twenty-first anniversary by the performance of Gilbert and Cellier's comic opera, "The Mountebanks," at The School, Cowper-street, E.C. Several of the principals were not certain of their lines, and with the chorus opening somewhat weakly, the performance was not as meritorious as it might otherwise have been. Miss Olive Craymer gave a delightfully dainty impersonation of Teresa, the village beauty—in singing, dancing, and acting she played with much charm. Mr. W. R. Brooks as Alfredo was good, and Mr. Henry Cooksey as Elvino di Pasta excellent. His elocution was perfect, and he proved that he had made quite a study of the part of the innkeeper. Ultrice was played by Miss Marjorie Heal very well, this lady's fine contralto voice being heard to much advantage. Mr. Herbert Craymer was successful as the captain of the secret society, and sang very well, and the Mountebanks themselves found able exponents in Mr. Dudley Jackson (as Pietro), Mr. John Guppy (as Parbola), and Miss Marion Jauncey (as Nita); the duet of the two latter in the first act, where Nita tries to induce Bartolo to take the potion, was exceptionally well done. The stage-management reflected much credit on Mr. Cyril S. Archer, and the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Leonard Day, was effective; whilst the costumes of Messrs. C. and W. May were all that could be desired.

The North London Operatic Society recently presented "The Toreador" at the Marlborough, Holloway, a most popular production. The society is a strong one, all the company working with ardour throughout, and the dresses and scenery were tasteful and magnificent. Singing and dancing alike merit comment, whilst the choruses were rendered in capital style under the direction of Mr. Sidney Rendell. Mr. Bertram M. Hickman, who took the rôle of Pettifer, the dealer in wild animals, very successfully gained enthusiastic recognition for his singing and dancing. Mr. Chas. G. Dickenson was good as Sir Archibald Slacitt, being well supported by Mr. Thomas S. Cotton, jun., as Augustus Traill. Carajolo had in Mr. Stanley Edenborough a capital interpreter, and as Rinaldo Mr. Ernest Amor left nothing to be desired. Mr. A. Douglas Hale was admirable in his characterisation of the Governor of Villaya, and the part of Moreno was well sustained by Mr. Alec Behn. Mr. Murray Short gave an amusing performance of Sammy Gigg, presenting not only the humour with which the author invested the part, but some which is inseparable from Mr. Murray Short's personality. Able assistance was also rendered by Messrs. H. Pallett Bedells (Master of Ceremonies), Edward Roberts (Mr. Probitt), Monty Hazell (Walter), and M. Hickisson (Porter). Miss Nellie Craig was pleasing as Susan; Miss Winnie Marsden interpreted very well the part of Dora Selby; Miss Louise Forge as the widow, Mrs. Walton Hoppings, was very good; and Miss Madge Brown was popular as Donna Teresa, singing with marked ability and power. Miss Mabel Pearcy was well suited as Nancy Staunton, and gave a dignified impersonation; and Miss Elsie Gordon danced exceedingly well, and was admirable in her characterisation of La Belle Bolero. The scheme of colour in the dresses was most artistic, and the movement and arrangement of the chorus showed that the labours of Stage-Director Murray Short, Stage-Manager Montague Hazell, assisted by Mr. Charles H. Pearman, had achieved most satisfactory results.

The St. John's Amateur Operatic Society gave an invitation performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, "The Gondoliers," at the Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock-place, on Saturday, and we must congratulate all concerned for the marked improvement shown in this production than that of previous performances. This chiefly applies to the chorus, who have certainly made headway in their work, both vocally and acting. This is without doubt entirely due to the untiring energies of the hon. musical director, Mr. Carl Sieling, and hon. instructor and stage manager, Mr. J. Crisp. These gentlemen devote a considerable amount of time to the training of the company, and their efforts are amply repaid by the complete manner the opera was performed. The principals have also shown advancement. Miss Violet Schulz shows marked improvement in her performance of the Duchess of Plaza Toro, which she represents in a quiet, dignified manner that the part requires; her vocal powers are excellent, and her rendering of "On the day when I was wedded" was beyond reproach. Casilda, her daughter, was represented by Miss Winnie Richards, a coming young artiste who has been chosen from the ranks of the chorus, and who deserves a warm word of praise for the interpretation of this young and haughty lady. The manner in which she played was quite in keeping with the part; this young lady will be heard of again undoubtedly, and make a name for herself. It is unnecessary to state that Miss Mary Henderson scored a success as Gianetta; she is an accomplished artiste, and her work is of the best. Whether in rendering "Kind sir, you cannot have the heart," or in her dramatic moments, she was excellent. Another young lady who is deserving of warm praise is Miss Edith Smith, who gave a most dainty and charming portrayal of Tessa, which was most admirably performed; her vocalism is good, but was rather weak. This may be accounted for by the fact that the lady has only lately recovered from a serious illness, and deserves warm congratulations for so pluckily playing the part; her dancing was very refined and won unstinted applause. Of the gentlemen, the pride of place must be given to Mr. Herbert Craymer, who presented a most artistic portrayal of the dottering old Duke of Plaza Toro; he was first-class in his acting, and his singing was beyond reproach; his part in the gavotte, "I am a courtier grave and serious" was provoking of mirth. Luis, his attendant, was well played by Mr. Arthur T. Brooks, who was admirable in his duets with Casilda; his vocalism was good, but rather harsh, and, appearing to be suffering from the effects of a cold, otherwise his performance was excellent. The two principal gondoliers, Marco and Giuseppe, were most satisfactorily represented by Mr. H. W. Mountcastle and Mr. Alf. I. Strickland; these two clever comedians were admirable in every way whether singing or dancing; they were an indisputable asset to the company, keeping the audience in a merry mood during their occupancy of the stage. Marco's rendering of "A pair of sparkling eyes" was received with every token of appreciation, encore being demanded, the quartette, "In a contemplative fashion," also being required again. Mr. Joseph Crisp, jun., was most satisfactory, his cynical representation of Don Alhambra being well carried through, and his vocalism exceptionally good. The chorus rendered their several interludes remarkably well, and their dancing received a most cordial reception. We cannot finish without complimenting Messrs Egerton on the manner they dressed the opera; it was most magnificent, the costumes being very elaborate. The wigs were supplied by Gustave and Co., and the lighting effects carried out by Mr. B. W. Dengard, which added to the success of the performance. The chorus were kept in hand under the guidance of the assistant stage manager, Mr. W. F. May.

Sir Arthur W. Pinero's comedy, "Preserving Mr. Panmure," by no means plays itself, and it requires very excellent acting to bring out all its effective qualities. Therefore, the members of the Old Colfeians' Dramatic Club, who chose the piece for presentation on Saturday last, at St. Peter's Hall, Brockley, handicapped themselves with a very difficult task. They, however, acquitted themselves, all things considered, in a very creditable manner. Miss Gladys de Koningh made a pretty and engaging governess as Josepha Quarendon, and one could easily understand the fascination which she exercised over the male visitors to Mr. Panmure's country house. Mr. Rupert Wybourn was very humorous as the drawling swell, Talbot Woodhouse, though he may be reminded it is dramatic high treason to sprinkle the lines of our foremost dramatist with local jokes and topical allusions, even though he may thereby rouse the laughter of the groundlings. Mr. Harold Ambrose gave a natural embodiment of that cheerful and good-natured old gentleman, Alfred Hebblethwaite, M.P., but Mr. R. F. Cruttenden, who has in previous attempts done good work for the club, was inclined to exaggerate the foolishness of Hugh Loring. Miss Hirzel de Lisle played very effectively the rôle of the sharp-tongued young lady, Dulcie Anstice. Mr. Harry de Koningh, who had evidently expended much care and trouble upon the production of the play, gave a clever character sketch as the sanctimonious old humbug, Mr. Panmure. Among the minor roles little Miss Doris Wybourn made an auspicious début as the priggish youngster, Myrtle Panmure, and Mr. H. W. Buckmaster was an ideal old family retainer. There was a large and fashionable audience, including the Mayoress of Deptford.

The Reyvelcar A.D.C., which gave its second performance on May 7, at the New Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, has not yet learned to take either itself or its dramatic art seriously. The major part of the audience, also, seemed to look upon the production of C. S. Fawcett's "Bubbles" and F. C. Burnand's "The Deal Boatman" as a huge joke, so that serious detailed criticism would apparently be superfluous, and out of place. As we noticed at the initial performance of the club at the Cripplegate Theatre, in February last, there is some talent amongst its members, notably in the cases of Messrs. H. Calvert Appleby, Paul D. Rover, G. Norman Waite, W. Henley-Hamlyn, and Misses Norah Waite, Lulu V. Fulker, and Sybil Adams; but if the society aspires to any prominent position on the amateur stage it would be well advised to enlist the help of a stern professional producer.

The Wyndham D.C. presented Mr. C. Haddon Chambers' "Passers-By" at the Royal Court Theatre on May 6 and 7. The effect of a very good performance individually, which served to introduce some new members of the club, was marred by over-deliberation and a consequent slowness of pace. This interesting and well-written piece contains opportunity for clear character drawing by most of its eight characters, of which the company took advantage. Mr. J. E. McCulloch's Peter Waverton was a careful and well-considered study, and his attention to detail was faithful. Mr. H. Clifford Holder was generally very good as Pine, but the frequent sing-song of his delivery and occasional aggressiveness brought him rather out of the picture as the well-trained product of several generations of gentleman's gentleman. Mr. Robert Baines' self-respecting, genial "Nighty" formed an excellent contrast to the nondescript "smear," Samuel Burns, of Mr. Malcolm Child; and in the case of both these players the actor was completely lost in the convincing character study. Miss Kathleen Birch, a newcomer, is a decided acquisition to the personnel of the club. Her dainty and charmingly womanly acting as Beatrice Dainton and her clever handling of the scene in the fourth act won the sympathies of her audience. Mrs. J. E. McCulloch was a simple and effective Margaret Summers, and Miss Dorothy Hawkins played incisively in the ungrateful part of Lady Hurley. Of little Miss Nancy Barnett's Little Peter we can only quote his mother's words, that "he is such a duck, such a lamb." With no display of precocity, the child won all hearts by her beauty and simple acting in the part. The play was produced under the direction of Mr. Reginald Rivington.

The Garrick A.D.S., in presenting "The Fatal Card" at the Court Theatre on May 2 and 3, provided plenty of thrills of the genuine, old-fashioned melodramatic flavour, the familiar incidents of lynched card-sharper, stolen bonds, chloroformed victim, wrongfully suspected but noble hero, and virtue finally triumphant, following thick and fast. The "gods" thoroughly entered into the spirit of the play of their choice and acted capitally. Mr. Sydney Herbert found the part of the hero, Gerald Austen, well within his powers, and acted easily and with distinction. He was well supported by Mr. Clive Brook, a capital Harry Burgess. Mr. Lewin M. Sultan enlisted sympathy for the semi-villain, George Forrester, and the craven fear of Mr. C. Wills Pearson's Captain Dixon was well emphasised in the fifth act. Miss Elsie M. Davidson had not much opportunity for distinguishing herself as Margaret Marrable, but played with suppressed emotion throughout. Miss Elisa Cutler was smart as Cecy Austen; Miss Maud Drew played the part of Mercedes on approved passionate adventuress lines; and Miss Marjorie Durrant was amusing as Aunt Penelope. The frequent change of scene and the mechanical effects were well carried out, the production being under the stage-direction of Mr. T. Ireby Cape.

The Kit Marlowe D.C. closed the present season at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on May 3, with what might be colloquially described as a "rattling good" performance of the romantic four-act play, "Under the Red Robe." The whole piece went with a swing, and where all were so good it is difficult to particularise. Mr. W. Harold Squire's make-up as Cardinal Richelieu was marvellously true to the portraits that have come down to us, and his impersonation realised the character of the crafty and diplomatic cleric and statesman by many adroit touches. Mr. Tony Rowland was excellent as the picturesque "Black Death," Gil de Berault. Mr. William Macdonald played the fool cleverly as Captain Larolle, and his shrewd, weather-beaten lieutenant, played by Mr. Frank Hole, could not have been bettered. The acting of Mr. Benjamin Gray as Clon was painful in its realism in the third act. Mr. Sydney Wallace (who produced) was dignified as the fugitive, Henri de Cocheforêt; and Mr. H. George Gafford and Mr. C. G. Dickinson made capital cavaliers as the Marquis de Pombal and Sir Thomas Brunt. As Renée de Cocheforêt Miss Kate Harris had many opportunities for the display of dignified emotion and gentle raillery, and in the second act she was particularly good, and made every point. Miss Aimée Brookman acted sympathetically as Mme. de Cocheforêt; Mrs. Herbert Ford was a vigorous hostess, Mme. Zaton; and Miss M. Harvin a gentle and pleasing Susette. The little ceremony of the presentation of an illuminated address, a gold watch and chain, and a cigar case to the retiring hon. sec., Mr. Bert Carpenter, served to show the esteem in which he is held by his fellow members, and brought a successful evening to a very pleasant close. Mr. Carpenter is remaining on the committee as general-manager of the affairs of the club.

In the Provinces.

The Theatre Royal, Chatham, is this week well occupied by a company of local amateurs in "The Cingalee." Mr. Henry F. Coote is an excellent Hon. Harry Vereker, and scores quite a success. Mr. H. Stanley Picking is heard to advantage in his songs; Mr. Laurence Craven amuses as Sir Peter Loftus; as Bobby Warren Mr. Harry Evans is quite at his ease, and is a great favourite; Mr. A. F. Peachell works untiringly, and makes one of the hits of the evening as Chambuddy Ram; Miss Louie Braybrooke is deserving of much praise for her singing and acting as Nanoya; Peggy Sabine finds a delightful representative in Mrs. R. T. Brown; and Miss Mabel Lane is a dainty and pleasing Lady Patricia. The bookings are excellent, and the success of the performances must be very gratifying to Mr. Percy Cory, under whom the play was produced.

The Derby Amateur Operatic Company, an old-established society, seems to have taken on a new lease of life. Last year the company was largely reorganised and much new blood, both in the management and in the leading rôles, was introduced. The recent production of "Tom Jones" has resulted in a record success, both artistically and financially, and there will be a balance to hand over to charity—the Derbyshire Hospital for sick children. The cast is a lengthy one—there are twenty-six speaking parts on the programme—and every rôle was adequately filled. Miss Lucy Dodd, who was promoted straight from the chorus to leading lady, sang the music of Sophia with great charm. Miss Dodd is well known on the concert platform, but she revealed hitherto unsuspected histrionic abilities, and, using her beautiful voice with artistic effect, she surprised her friends and amply justified the committee in entrusting her with the leading feminine rôle. In the name-part Mr. Lewis G. Dickenson has appeared before with another society, and he sang and acted with success. Two excellent comedians were found in Mr. A. Warren Jones, the energetic hon. sec., who played the part of Partridge, the irrepressible barber, with spirit and a keen sense of humour, and Mr. W. R. Wright, a fine basso, who proved an effective contrast as Gregory, the phlegmatic Somersetshire rustic. Mr. Arthur W. Bond, who acted as stage-manager, and had rehearsed the company for many months previous to the production, and to whom the lion's share of the success was due, submitted a fine, virile study of Squire Western; while another part which was exceptionally well played was that of Honour, in the hands of Mrs. Bert Clay, who made Sophia's maid a winsome, fascinating coquette, and a clever dancer. Mr. A. G. Revill, as Blifil; Mr. Alf. S. Gray, as Squire Allworthy, were also excellent; while the large and vocally efficient chorus entered on its work with commendable spirit. Mr. Sydney T. Sadler, Mus.Bac., conducted; and Mr. Hubert H. Toft as pianist and Mr. Chas B. Sherwin as property-master rendered valuable assistance.

After their capital performance last year of "You Never Can Tell," more than usual interest was taken in the performance of the St. Mary's College Dramatic Society, which took place in the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, last week. The play selected this year was Barrie's inimitable fantasy, "The Admirable Crichton." The performance proved the best of an amateur character seen here for a considerable time. The part of Crichton demands an actor of insight and elocutionary power, and these qualities were furnished by Mr. J. B. Majennis, whose acting in the difficult rôle was worthy of a professional player. To Miss K. Murphy as Lady Mary Lasenby nothing but praise is due, her acting all through being characterised by a grace and charm which carried her audience with her throughout. Mr. V. E. Becker as the Hon. Ernest Wooley acted with commendable ease and naturalness. Lady Mary's sisters were capably represented by the Misses Beauchamp and Spadaccini, and Miss E. Kelly gave a delightful character study of the servant, Tweeney. No small praise is due to Mr. F. Purcell for his fine study of the Earl of Loam, and Miss E. Murphy, who made a decided hit as the domineering Lady Brocklehurst. Credit is also due to J. Brooke Kelly, who painted the special scenery in Act II., and to Mr. M. J. O'Connor, who made an efficient stage-manager. The audience received the performance on both occasions with great enthusiasm, and insisted on Mr. Jas. C. O'Brien, who was responsible for the whole production, bowing his acknowledgments.

The recently formed Whitley Bay organisation, the Rockcliff Operatic Society, gave their first series of performances in the Tynemouth Palace recently, the comic opera chosen being the evergreen "Pirates of Penzance." The production was worthy of a much older society. Mr. Dewey Gibson, a cultivated tenor, rendered the fine songs allotted to the hero, Frederick, in admirable style; while histrionically he was beyond reproach. Mme. Isa Walton's rich soprano voice was heard to decided advantage in Mabel's pretty numbers, her acting also being excellent. Mr. Norman Wright was amusing as the Major-General Stanley, and he sang his "quick" song cleverly. Mr. Harry Tomkins was a merry Sergeant of Police, and Mr. Bertram Woodrow, while not making much of his fine song in the first act, was otherwise good as the Pirate King. Ruth had an excellent interpreter in Mrs. J. G. Wilkins. Those clever playlets, "The Touch of the Child" and "The Man in the Street," were presented before the opera on alternative evenings by Messrs. F. H. Patterson and T. W. Tomlinson and Misses Ivy Chipp and Olive Tomlinson. The musical-director was Mr. Geo. P. Stephenson, and the stage-manager Mr. T. W. Tomlinson

The Liverpool Players' Dramatic Club recently gave, in the David Lewis Hostel Theatre, a praiseworthy presentation of "Are You a Mason?" which was stage-managed by Mr. A. J. Dearden. Miss Margaret Mollison was especially good as Lottie, and earned much favour. Mr. Harry Astley ably impersonated Bloodgood, and helped greatly with the laughter. Frank Perry, Ernest Morrison, and George Fisher, the other "Masons," were creditably handled by Messrs. George Hutchence, Harold Leighton, and S. Morgan, all of whom helped to keep the ball rolling. Miss Dorothy Fletcher deserved thanks for her Caroline Bloodgood, and the two girls, Annie and Lulu, were capably undertaken by the Misses Nora Read and Beatrice Ironside.

Cheltenham Holy Apostles' Institute D.C. produced a pretty and amusing comedietta recently, entitled "Anything but Gabbs," by Ernest W. Deacon. The scene is a room in Ye Swan Hostelry, where Frank MacAragher, beset by a storm, awaits the arrival of his brother, Russell, before going on to the manor house, where they are to be the guests of Squire Newman. The squire and their father are old cronies, and desire that one of the boys shall marry the former's daughter, Daisy. Russell, however, wires that he is detained in town and cannot get away for a day or two, whereupon Frank, who is charmed with the old hostelry and its surroundings, decides to wait for him there, so that each shall have an equal chance of winning the hand of the heiress on proceeding to the manor. Daisy discovers Frank's proximity, and, masquerading as the innkeeper's daughter, gains his confidence, and soon captures his heart. Russell arrives, and, seeing Daisy in her assumed rôle, deems her fair game for sport, soon, however, meeting his Waterloo. A lively scene ensues betwixt the brothers. Further discomfiture awaits Russell when the squire arrives and acquaints Frank that he has captured the prize after all. The promising little piece was capitally played by Mr. C. Waring as Frank MacAragher, Mr. J. Taylor as Russell MacAragher, Mr. G. Bailey as Innkeeper Gabbs, Mr. W. Pearce as Squire Newman, and Miss Reid as Daisy.

The Hon. Lily Montagu has written to Mr. Sivori Levey a letter of thanks for his personal supervision at a recent entertainment given by the members of the West Central Girls' Clubs, Soho, and also expresses her gratification at the costumes supplied by Miss Maie Hoey, and her appreciation of the high quality of that young lady's performance of the Beggar's Dance in the second scene of "Hiawatha."

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SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

"OH, I SAY!"

Comedy, in Three Acts, Adapted by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare from "Une Nuit des Noces," by Henri Keroul and Albert Barré, and Presented at the Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, on Monday, May 5.

Marcel Durosel .....Mr. James Welch
Henri .....Mr. Robert Averel
Monsieur Duportal .....Mr. Bruce Winston
Jacques Laverdet .....Mr. Clifton Alderson
Sorbier .....Mr. Henry Woolston
Langley .....Mr. Bertie White
Batinot .....Mr. Eric Albury
A Cook .....Mr. Cecil Fairfax
A Waiter .....Mr. James Howell
A Gendarme .....Mr. George Muir
A Gendarme .....Mr. Tom Penton
Joseph .....Mr. Bertram Phillips
Suzette Durosel .....Miss Sybil de Bray
Marguerite .....Miss Maxine Hinton
Mme. Duportal .....Miss Hannah Jones
Claudine .....Miss Ruby Miller
Mme. Pigache .....Miss Emma Chambers
Gabrielle .....Miss Eileen Northe
Julia .....Miss Kathleen Gower
Sidonie de Matisse ..Mlle. Marguerite Scialtiel

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

A long laugh is assured to those who witness Mr. James Welch's newest acquisition, which was produced at Bournemouth last week, is now being given at Brighton, and is destined for the Criterion in the near future. The comedy, which has enjoyed a run of 800 nights at the Palais-Royale, is very funny and very French, and though the complications are such as one are accustomed to in Parisian farce, the piece is based upon an idea which must be allowed to be original, while ludicrous situations follow each other with quite bewildering rapidity and give no rest to the risible faculties.

Wedding festivities are in progress when the curtain rises on the Hotel d'Angleterre, Beauvois, where the marriage is being celebrated of Marcel Durosel, a young advocate, and Susette, the daughter of M. Duportal, the chief magistrate of the town. The bridegroom's joy is turned to dismay by the arrival of Sidonie de Matisse, a famous Parisian actress, to whom he had in the past been engaged. He has reason to fear her displeasure if she learns that he is married, and he therefore introduces his best man Henri as the husband, and submits with the best grace possible to Sidonie's caresses until the time comes for his departure to Paris for the honeymoon. Duportal has also had embarrassing relations with Sidonie, and, fearful that she may meet his wife, prevails upon the actress, by the payment of a sum representing the takings for the week and £1,000 into the bargain, to give up her engagement at the local theatre and return to the capital, at the same time arranging to join her at supper.

Now the plot thickens. Sidonie has a very commercial-minded maid, who conceives the idea of turning her mistress's frequent absences from home to advantage by letting out her flat and pocketing the receipts, and it is only in the nature of farce that the latest tenants should be the newly-married couple, who are delighted with their quarters. Their satisfaction is short-lived, for, to the horror of the bridegroom, Sidonie duly returns, and ascribes Marcel's presence to his devotion to her. Fortunately Henri arrives opportunely to resume his former rôle of husband, and Sidonie, who learns of her maid's duplicity, places her other flat, a few streets away, at the disposal of the best man and the bride, and telephones to the police to arrest her maid. The latter, however, has not only utilised her mistress's abode, but has assumed her personality, and, under her name, has fascinated the chief of police, whom she is at that moment entertaining to supper in Sidonie's other apartments, so that when the police go to the first flat to effect her capture the only lady they can find is Mme. Duportal, who has come in search of her husband, and her they take in charge. In the end, Sidonie, who has run over a pig during her motor journey to Paris, and is under the impression that she has killed a man, believes that the police are after her, and is induced to leave the country. Mme. Duportal secures possession of her husband, and the young couple are left at length in peace.

Little indication is given in the foregoing summary of the fun that waxes fast and furious over the endeavours of the new bridegroom to evade the wrath of the old love, and of the chief's magistrate's desire to enjoy her society and at the same time escape the consequences of his infidelity. The mere fact that Mr. James Welch is in the cast is a sure indication that merriment prevails throughout. He is the leading spirit of the play, and the distracted bridegroom's endeavours to escape from the attentions of the actress are the source of continual amusement, every utterance and every quaint action being greeted with a burst of laughter. The demonstrative actress was played by Mlle. Marguerite Scialtiel, a French comedienne with hardly a trace of accent. She made Sidonie a charming and droll personality, and seconded the chief comedian admirably in all his most laughable episodes. Miss Sybil De Bray, a refined young actress, made a dainty and demure bride, and Miss Ruby Miller, as the enterprising maid, looked very chic and daring in a tight-fitting costume, and invested the part with a coolness and nonchalance that was very effective. Mr. Robert Averel made a bright and breezy best man, entering thoroughly into the spirit of the occasion. Mr. Bruce Winston, as the portly chief magistrate, was very diverting, as was also Miss Hannah Jones as the equally substantial Mme. Duportal. A deliciously droll mixture of official importance and amatory elation was given by Mr. Clifton Alderson, who, as the chief of police, was seen in one of his most characteristic performances. Miss Emma Chambers and Mr. Bertram Phillips, as a couple of servants, also added to the fun. The piece was tastefully mounted, and its success was emphasised by loud applause at the end of each act.

"THE CLIMAX."

A Play in One Act, by Murray Gilchrist. Produced for the First Time at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Friday, May 2.

Job Askew ..... Mr. Martin Sands
Jud Yellot ..... Mr. Desmond Brannigan
Joanna ..... Miss Carrie Haase
Mrs. Dane ..... Miss Ine Cameron

The mark of the novelist, expert in dialogue, and alive to subtle shades of character and emotion, is evident throughout Mr. Murray Gilchrist's one-act play, "The Climax," which Mr. Braden Payne produced at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Friday, May 2. It is the story of a selfish and exacting father, imposing in a too strong degree the obligations of home life upon a self-sacrificing and unappreciated daughter, who for twenty years has been motherless, and who now has in view the prospect of a home of her own. The action opens with a love scene—passionate in a quiet way, but subservient to the situation—between Joanna, the daughter, and Jud Yellot, a worthy young countryman, who desires her to marry him. Jud has brought some disquieting news, to the effect that Job Askew, Joanna's father, has his eye upon a certain widow, Mrs. Dane, who keeps the "King and Pippin" public-house. It is very hard for Joanna to realise that her father could have matrimonial intentions, she has never thought of him in relation to such an enterprise, which seems quite out of keeping with his character; but, as a matter of fact, colour is lent to the suggestion in that Job is even now on his way to the farmstead in company with Mrs. Dane, whom obviously he intends to introduce to her future step-daughter. The elderly couple are seen approaching in a horse vehicle at the top of the road, and Joanna dismisses her lover, promising to put a light in her window should everything go well in relation to their own affair, for the prospect certainly implies that Joanna will at last be free to marry Jud. Mrs. Dane turns out to be a smart little woman, whose wits have been sharpened by business experience, and who, as a widow, has no nonsense about her in the way of lovemaking. Her eye is shrewdly upon the material situation, and particularly wide open to the intentions of Job Askew The latter abruptly and harshly dismisses Joanna to the milking of the cows in the shippon. He is a believer in stern discipline, under which Joanna acts with perfect obedience, much to the admiration of Mrs. Dane. His manner towards Mrs. Dane, however, is very ingratiating; he would show her over the house, but the lady suspiciously declines to leave the ground floor, much less enter a dark pantry with him, which he is, therefore, compelled to describe for her from the threshold. His advances in the open are warded off with equal caution, and it is a long time before the lady consents to allow her elderly suitor to put an arm round her waist and make orthodox love. The courting then rapidly develops, in a comedy vein, toward the revelation of Job Askew's true intentions, which is to improve his worldly position at the expense of the widow's savings, his manner showing that he would be master of the house in the same way as he is master of Joanna. On this there is a sharp and acrid quarrel, with the result that Mrs. Dane goes off indignantly, and Job calls after her "Good riddance." Meanwhile, Joanna has been congratulating herself that she can now be free, and is happy in the prospect of going over to Jud Yellot. But her father, chagrined by the failure of his courting, renews his grip upon her. Joanna, with something of his own spirit, stoutly protests, the climax being that Job is compelled to go out himself and finish the milking, and Jud Yellot, called up by the light in the window, comes in to claim his promised bride.

A very fine impersonation of Joanna was given by Miss Carrie Haase, who played with power and feeling; Mr. Desmond Brannigan as Jud Yellot made a spirited lover; a vigorous and convincing rendering of Job Askew was added by Mr. Martin Sands, and Miss Ine Cameron invested the rôle of Mrs. Dane with a pleasantly incisive wit and humour.

"THE GHOST."

Comedy, in One Act, by Charles Pender, Produced for the First Time at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on May 1, 1913.

Horace Overend .....Mr. S. W. Maddock
Frank Wakely .....Mr. J. Gilles Butt
Peter .....Mr. Robert V. Justice
Ethel Desmond .....Miss Eleanor Story

In "The Ghost" we have a witty narrative of a Parliamentary election. The theme gives the author abundant scope and he avails of it to the full. Some of the realities of campaigning are the subject of an ingenious burlesque, and into the whole is interwoven a charming romance. Horace Overend is a candidate for Parliamentary honours, and is engaged to Ethel Desmond, with whom his secretary and ghost, Frank Wakely, is secretly in love. Overend is pompous and stupid, and appears to be in love more with himself than with Ethel Desmond. The latter is attracted to him by his wonderful speeches, which embody various schemes for helping the poor and downtrodden. But it turns out that all the fine ideas and majestic language which she so warmly admires are Wakely's, and so she transfers her affections to him, for it is his powerful mind that she really loves.

The action of the play takes place on the night of Overend's election day. It is while he is at the town hall awaiting the result that Ethel makes the startling discovery that the glowing rhetoric which won her affection is the inspiration of another mind. The awful fact is unwittingly communicated to her by Peter, an old servant. Overend's anticipation of a triumphant return is realised. A cheering crowd follows him, and on arriving outside his house a call is made for a speech. He attempts to deliver an address, but breaks down after the first sentence, and has to call on Wakely for assistance. Ethel sees his tragic collapse, though the crowd do not, and this doubly convinces her of his unworthiness. He leaves for London immediately, and the play ends with a satisfactory understanding between Ethel and Wakely. The play teems with humour and sparkling epigram.

Mr. Maddock was conspicuously good as Overend, and undoubtedly upholds his well-known reputation as a most versatile and painstaking actor. Mr. Butt is an unqualified success as the "ghost," Wakely; whilst Mr. Justice performs the small part of the old servant with his well-known ability. Miss Eleanor Story makes a charming Ethel, and her acting contributes in no small degree to the success of the piece. At the fall of the curtain there were loud calls for the author, and Mr. Pender responded with a brief speech, in the course of which he made allusion to the perfect manner in which the play had been staged.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Stories of the Operas and the Singers." Sixty pages. Illustrated. Price 6d. net. Published by John Long, Ltd.

"Pictures of 1913." 129 pages. Illustrated. Price 1s. net

"The People's Money." By John W. de Kay. 105 pages. Price 1s. Published by Effingham Wilson.

"The Dancing Child." By Brenda Girvin and Monica Cosens. 310 pages. Price 6s. Published by Chapman and Hall, Ltd.

The marriage of Miss May Etheridge, the musical comedy actress, and Lord Edward Fitzgerald, the youngest brother of the Duke of Leinster, will take place in London within a few weeks. Miss Etheridge commenced her stage career at the age of 13, when she appeared in "The New Aladdin" at the Gaiety. Since then she has been prominent in musical comedy, but retired a little time ago. Lord Edward Fitzgerald was formerly in the Irish Guards.

The first week of the short season to be given by Miss Horniman's company at the Royal Court Theatre, Sloane-square, will open on Monday with "The Pigeon." The only performances of this play will be given on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday evenings, and Wednesday matinée. The remainder of the week will be devoted to a piece new to London, but recently produced with great success at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester—"The Whispering Well," a Lancashire dream play—by a Manchester author, with music by a Manchester composer. In the following two weeks numerous plays will be given, some new to London, including "Jane Clegg," by St. John G. Ervine; and "Elaine," by Harold Chapin. There will also be several one-act plays: "The Dream Child," by W. Oliphant Down; "Complaints," by Hamer Clegg; "The Woman Who Sold Herself," by W. F. Casey; "Miss Tassey," by Elizabeth Baker; and "The Little Stone House," by George Calderon.

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Few greater boons have been bestowed upon the theatrical profession than the introduction into this country some forty years ago of the spirit or dry process of cleaning, by means of which the most elaborate wardrobes and furnishings can be restored to their original pristine beauty almost times without number. It is not surprising therefore that from Land's End to John o' Groat's practically every town contains a receiving office for one at least of the important firms engaged in the trade. Amongst the largest of these is the old-established business of Lush and Cook, Ltd., whose gigantic works at Hackney Wick are fitted with all the latest scientific machinery obtainable, which enables them to turn out work of unique excellence. The company have over sixty branches scattered throughout the kingdom, and give permanent employment to many hundreds of skilled work people, numbers of whom have been in their service for lifelong periods.

Mr. John Bell, the company's theatrical business-manager, will need no introduction to most of our readers. He joined the staff of this enterprising firm some eighteen years ago to demonstrate to his theatrical friends how beneficially to their interests he could employ his knowledge of their requirements when backed up by a first-class firm. The result has been most gratifying

MR. JOHN BELL.

to all concerned, for every consecutive year of this long period has produced largely increased business, and the company have retained his services for a further considerable period of years. Still on the right side of forty, keen and courteous at all times, he has attracted to the clientèle of his firm the cream of the dramatic profession, including Sir George Alexander, Sir John Hare, Sir H. B. Tree, Messrs. Arthur Collins, Charles Frohman, Arthur Bourchier, Oscar Asche, Fred Terry, Forbes-Robertson, Robert Courtneidge, Milton Bode, Charles Hawtrey, Lewis Waller, W. Clarkson, and Weedon Grossmith; whilst among the ladies we may mention Lady Tree, Lady Alexander, Misses Ellen Terry, Marie Tempest, Julia Neilson, Phyllis Dare, Fanny Brough, Eva Moore, Winifred Emery, Violet Vanbrugh, Irene Vanbrugh, Pauline Chase, Maude Allan, Lilian Braithwaite, and hundreds of others of equal eminence.

Asked at a recent interview to what, in spite of increasing competition, he attributed this unprecedented success, Mr. Bell stated that he felt it was due principally to the splendid quality of his firm's processes, and to the commendable manner in which he had been supported by the board of the company who, at great expense, had organised a service for the profession second to none. By means of a fleet of modern speedy motors running several times daily to and from their works, all articles in actual use on the stage are collected, cleaned and delivered between the shows, even for a matinée if necessary, as in the case of Drury Lane pantomimes, where delivery is made every day by 12 o'clock—surely a record which speaks volumes for the splendid organisation of the firm. Mr. Bell is a popular member of the Managers' Club. He has received scores of letters from leading managers and artistes thanking him for personal attention to their orders during the past years. We have no doubt that he will retain their support for his company, whose theatrical business is carried on in elaborately fitted and capacious premises in the heart of Theatreland, 29, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C. The company have recently introduced a new process for cleaning wall-paper, frescoes, water-colour paintings, distempers, &c., for which they are having a great demand, and have received a large number of testimonials.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

APRIL 28.—The Theatre Royal de la Monnoire has billed "Carmen," "Manon," and "La Tosca," pending the now annual performance of Wagner's "Tetralogy." These and a Beethoven-Wagner concert will crown a rather well-filled season.

The Parc is sheltering the great Huguenet, in H. Bataille's clever comedy, "Les Flambeaux."

At the Olympia a summer management has revived "Le Friquet," a thorough Parisian play adapted by Willy from Gyp's novel.

The Vaudeville is drawing good audiences with "Plumard et Barnabe," a capital farce by Henry Moreau and Ch. Quinel.

The Alhambra is ending a series of musical successes with Leo Fall's fine operetta, "Le Joyeux Paysan."

But the heat has set in, and the posters are announcing last performances everywhere.

As a compensation, the Palais d'Eté is offering its cosmopolitan patrons a first-rate programme in a most refreshing and cool atmosphere. This week's programme includes: The ventriloquist, Leo; Les Valente, in their neat fancy dances; Lee Sam, in his songs; the Four Sisters Ruby, dancers and acrobats; Horton and La Triska, the doll and her pierrot; the Vinettos, comic jugglers; the very funny musical Vindobonas; the Troupe Borsini, on the globe; and the enigmatic Trixy, in a performance of escaping from a tank of water in which she is placed head first and locked up.

The Drama Society will present at Cosmopolis on Monday afternoon, May 26, a new English version, by Rathmell Wilson, of François Coppée's "Le Passant," and "A Short Way with Authors," a new play by Gilbert Cannan. In the casts will be Mr. R. Henderson Bland, Mr. Rathmell Wilson, Mr. Noel Phelps, Miss Christine Willmore, Miss Rita Sponti, and Miss Ella Erskine. The plays will be produced by Mme. Marie Vantini and Mr. Julian Royce.

MOTOR NOTES.

"Continental" tyres have long been associated with "T.T." wins, both at Brooklands and the Isle of Man, and they fully upheld their reputation at the B.M.C.R.C. Meeting on April 26, by carrying Hugh Mason to victory on his "N.U.T." in the Brooklands Junior T.T. Race. His time of 1hr. 6mins. 3 4-5sec. averaged out at 54.29 miles per hour.

The Public Schools Team Race also provided another success for "Continentals," as the "Douglas," ridden by Victor Wilberforce of the winning team (Eton), was fitted therewith.

It is such events, which impose prolonged, abnormal strain on the tyres, that prove beyond all doubt whether they really do what their manufacturers claim for them.

A Motor Trip in Essex.

I think it is Raleigh who says:—

"Abused mortals, did you know
Where joy, heart's ease and comforts grow,
You'd scorn proud towers,
And seek them in these bowers,
Where wind sometimes our woods perhaps may shake,
But blustering care could never tempest make."

And such an old-world country lies, now that the motor car has come, at our very door, and, what is more, we have often probably passed it by, in seeking more distant scenes and thinking merely of distance o'ercome and police traps evaded. Chance necessitated a halt on the main Colchester road not far from Chelmsford, and as it was too late for the journey I had had in view, and mine host had told me of lovely country by-roads, I turned my trusty Humber and wandered where Oliver Goldsmith once lived, through Springfield, claimed to be the original of that author's famous "Deserted Village." Here I branched off past the inn to the right, and so by Cuton Hall, turning off to the left on reaching the Great Baddow road, and so gently ascending amid beautiful surrounding scenery to the site of the old Danish Camp, Danbury. At the top of the hill is an ancient church, with a lofty wooden tower, from whence the ships can be seen passing in the Thames and Crouch, in the south the Kentish hills, on the north the fine cathedral of Essex—as the inhabitants like to call the old Thaxted Church—and on the west the Palace of the Bishop of St. Albans. The inn here, The Griffin, is mentioned by Sir Walter Scott in the preface to "Waverley."

The Little Baddow road, which turns off to the left, can now be followed; for about a mile and a half it is well wooded, beech, and a tree often taken for it—the hornbeam—being numerous. A turn to the left leads to the Chelmer, where good pike fishing can be had. Boreham House and Hall merit a visit. In the Great Hall—now a chapel—are the initials of Henry VIII. and Anne Boleyn, sculptured with love knots. The road now crosses the main Colchester route, and should be followed to Brent Hall, and from there to Little Waltham across the Roman road to Great Waltham. The Norman church in this old village, which is one of the largest in Essex, contains many interesting frescoes and brasses, and in the vicinity are many fine old mansions. If time permits, a turning on the left at How-street can be followed to Pleshey, the old town of Tummuli, once the seat of the High Constables of England. Old Roman entrenchments surround the place, and a mound marks the site where in ancient times a castle stood. To the right, near the Mount, leads by Ringtail Green and Hartford End to Felstead, a pleasant village overlooking the Chelmer Valley. An old house has some quaint wood carvings, one setting forth the name of the builder and date—1594. There is good accommodation in the town; but, as Little Dunmow was near, and I was keen on seeing the scene where the flitch of bacon is presented, the journey was continued there. A most comfortable inn was found, and I soon heard all about the town which Ainsworth's novel has rendered famous. In the time of Henry III. a Robert Fitzwalter started the presentation of a flitch of bacon to such married couples who had not repented them, sleeping or waking, of their marriage after the lapse of a year and a day. Kneeling on sharp stones, the applicants had to swear before the prior and convent this oath:—

"You shall swear by the custom of our confession,
That you never made any nuptial transgression.
Since you were married man and wife,
By household brawls or contentious strife;
Or otherwise at bed or at board
Offended each other in deed or in word;
Or since the parish clerk said 'Amen'
Wished yourselves unmarried again,
Or in a twelvemonth and a day
Repented not in thought any way,
But continued true and in desire
As when you joined hands in holy quire.
If to these conditions without all fear
Of your own accord you will freely swear,
A gammon of bacon you shall receive,
And bear it hence with love and good leave;
For this is our custom at Dunmow well known,
Though the sport is ours, the bacon's your own."

The winning pair were then installed in an armchair, which can still be seen in the church near the east end, and then the day was given over to general festivity. The church is a very interesting one, and contains an alabaster monument to Walter and Matilda Fitzwalter, the latter's head being supported by a pillow held by angels. Some remains of the old priory can be seen, and in the neighbourhood some interesting Roman pottery has been discovered.

A return to town can be made through Hatfield Forest and Bishop's Stortford, the birthplace of Cecil Rhodes, or a further route may be taken through Easton, the seat of the Countess of Warwick, a glorious mansion, and so on to the Sheffield of Queen Mary's time—Thaxted—a charming quaint old town with timbered, plastered houses, situated on rising ground and commanding a fine view of the valley of the Chelmer. The inhabitants are justly proud of their church to St. John the Baptist. There is a splendid tower and spire dating from 1424, and the richly carved ceiling and ancient pulpit are specially worthy of note. A pretty, undulating road leads to Debden, and, though Essex does not boast of many floral rarities, the small fruited goose grass is not to be found elsewhere, and can be seen here, as well as the sickle-leaved hare's ear, and, of course, the saffron, said to have been, according to tradition, introduced hidden in a palmer's staff. Those in search of quaint old cottages should turn off at Smith's Green, and take the road through Rook End to Newport. Here Nell Gwynne is said to have lived; the house is known as the "Crown," and can easily be found. We have now come to the main Cambridge-road, and a turning just beyond the park at Shortgrove goes to Saffron Walden, of murder fame. It is on the bank of the Slade, a tributary of the Cam. Edward the Sixth's Almshouses and the museum on Castle Hill are worth seeing, as well as Lord Braybrooke's mansion, a mile to the west of the town.

The American Tourist.

It is a fact that American tourists travelling through Europe have latterly been dodging John Bull's snug little island to a great extent. Why they should do it has been a matter of more or less conjecture, but one of the most plausible reasons would seem to be the comparative lack of good motoring roads in England. Automobilists find the Continent more conducive to comfortable journeying, and so tend to stray in that direction. At one time it was considered that the most practicable way to get to Europe was through the ports of England, but the manager of a Cook's agency in New York City says:—

"There are thousands of tourists who leave these shores bound for the ports of Italy, from which they go by easy journeys into France, abide for a while in Paris, and then perhaps remain a few days in England before their return. The Americans and the French are congenial, and Paris they always find entertaining.

"The women who travel like to make the longest stop in Paris, and to be there last of all, so they can have their gowns made in the very latest mode, and can supervise their construction before leaving for their American homes."

The agent smiled, and considered again, and then talked of pet dogs.

"There are many Americans who like to take their canine pets with them on their travels. The English impose a quarantine of six months on all dogs coming into the country, and three months if the animals are accompanied by a veterinary certificate of which the authorities approve.

"Many Americans go first to the Continent because they can take their dogs with them. The animals may be left in Paris or in any other European city while the owners cross the Channel and spend a few days in London. This is not as it was before the dog quarantine was established There is a general feeling of resentment among American travellers against a law which they consider especially objectionable."

Colonel Edward S. Cornell, secretary of the National Highways Protective Society, who has been making a study of roads for several years, said that he had received advices from Europe which indicated that Americans with automobiles found touring less pleasant in England than on the Continent.

"Reports which we have recently received from the other side," continued the colonel, "show that the roads are in bad condition in many parts of England, and that there is a general dissatisfaction at the cost of having them repaired. The roads of the Continent are not perfect by any means, but most of the great national highways are in good condition and admit of good automobile travelling."

Entertainments in theatres and halls in Sydney have been considerably affected by the continuous succession of strikes there. Just now we had ten days and nights without gas, as the men suddenly struck work, and only where they had electric lighting could a show be given. Now the ferry companies' hands have struck, and none of the 100,000 residents of North Sydney, Manly, and other suburbs across the harbour can come to Sydney for business or pleasure. Strikes happen weekly. The coalminers, bakers, and carters are now out. As lately reported the Labour Ministry had evicted the King's representatives, the Governor-General and Lady Denman, from Government House, thus depriving theatres, &c., of their vice-regal patronage. The citizens have appealed to the Supreme Court, and a full Bench has decided that Government House and grounds are the property of the King and Imperial Government, and has issued an injunction against the Ministry for its illegal action. This is a place where political and industrial warfare keep us in a perpetual ferment. The only spot where harmony exists is a theatre, picture show, or concert hall.

Opera at popular prices is to be given at the Century Theatre, New York, next season, preceding and following the regular season at the Metropolitan Opera House, which means that the performances will be given in September and October of this year, and in May and June, 1914. The Metropolitan Opera Company will co-operate, and the City Club will raise a fund of $450,000 for the purpose of producing opera at popular prices during a period of three years. Subscriptions are to be payable in instalments. According to the preliminary announcements, it is estimated that the cost of producing opera will be $14,500 a week, or $232,000 for two seasons of eight weeks each. The receipts (estimated on a basis of two-thirds of the seating capacity of the house) will be $199,547, leaving a deficit in operating expenses of $32,453. It is anticipated that this deficit will diminish from year to year, and in the fourth year be entirely wiped out by the receipts.

The committee also state it as their policy to obtain as manager of the enterprise the man best fitted for the place, whether an American or foreigner, and to make him responsible for the success of the enterprise, giving him a free hand in the selection of repertory and artistes, being responsible, however, to the directors for results, and carrying out their policy as outlined by them from time to time. It is proposed to produce cosmopolitan opera in English, French, German, and Italian. It will be the policy of the directors to abstain from experiments, but to produce such operas as have won their place in public approval in America or elsewhere.

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AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, April 23.—Miss Nance O'Neill made her re-appearance recently on the local stage after an absence of several seasons. The play in which she appeared was called "Ann Boyd," and was a dramatisation by Miss Lucille La Verne of Will N. Harben's book of the same title. The scenes of the play are laid in Georgia, the first act taking place in 1860, and the following acts in 1875. Ann Boyd is the wife of a farmer in comfortable circumstances. The home life of the Boyds is uneventful until Jane Hemingway comes upon the scene, and her unfounded gossip provokes a quarrel between the husband and wife, which ends in a separation. Ann turns to a business career, and prospers. Her love is centred in Luke King, her adopted son, who has grown to manhood, and who falls in love with Virginia Hemingway, the daughter of the woman who wrecked Ann's home. The worthless son of a local "magnate" is also in love with Virginia, and under the pretence of helping her he lures her to his house at night. Ann prevents the young scoundrel from ruining the girl, and instead of embracing the opportunity for revenge which thus presents itself she not only saves her enemy's daughter, but gives Jane Hemingway the pecuniary assistance she badly needs. In the last act the latter learns how the woman she wronged has befriended her, and in a fit of repentance she tells Ann's divorced husband how she lied about Ann's infidelity, the result being a general reconciliation and happiness all round.

As Ann Boyd, Miss O'Neill had a good part, and played it well. Her personal success was not of sufficient importance to save the play, however, and it was withdrawn after a brief run at Wallack's Theatre. Miss Lucille La Verne, who dramatised the novel, appeared as Jane Hemingway.

The Actors' Fund of America, which maintains a home for aged and disabled players on Staten Island, was enriched to the extent of $6,500 as the result of the annual benefit performance given recently at the Century Theatre.

Mr. Rowland Buckstone, who has lived in America for the last twenty-five years, lost his wife about two months ago, and the shock affected him deeply, as he had recently suffered a severe illness. He was stricken in January last, whilst appearing with Mr. Sothern and Miss Marlowe in their Shakespearean répertoire, and at one time he was reported to be dying. He returned to New York recently, and his friends noticed that he had greatly changed and was acting strangely. It was deemed advisable to remove him to Bellevue Hospital, and, accompanied by his physician, Dr. Allen Carpenter, he was placed in the psychopathic ward of that institution on the 17th inst. Mr. Buckstone has been associated with Mr. E. H. Sothern since 1888, and has been conspicuously successful in many important productions. In the plays of Shakespeare, his rendering of certain comedy rôles was particularly enjoyable thanks to his stentorian voice and bluff, hearty manner. Through his association with Mr. Sothern a lifelong friendship has been handed down to the second generation, as Mr. Buckstone's father and the elder Sothern were close friends for many years.

Mrs. H. B. Warner, who was recently killed in an automobile accident, was formerly the wife of Frederick Hamlin, of Chicago, a member of the theatrical company known as Hamlin, Mitchell and Fields, who produced "The Red Mill" and other comedies. Following the death of her first husband, she was married about five years ago to Mr. Warner. Before her marriage she was Miss Mary Burton Cozzins. Her parents live in Chicago.

Mr. Warner has had quite an interesting and successful career since he left England for America six years ago to appear with Miss Eleanor Robson in "Merely Mary Ann." For four seasons he appeared in "Alias Jimmy Valentine," and, in the rôle of a reformed convict, made himself immensely popular all over the country. For some weeks past he has been appearing at the Lyceum Theatre in a play called "The Ghost Breaker." Three years ago there was an announcement in the newspapers to the effect that Mr. Warner intended to devote the proceeds of one performance of "Alias Jimmy Valentine" at Wallack's Theatre to bettering the condition of "lifers" in the prisons of the United States. A copy of the paper containing that announcement reached two prisoners in the Federal Prison in Atlanta, who were sentenced as murderers more than eight years before to life imprisonment, after barely escaping death on the scaffold. These two prisoners were formerly sailors, and British subjects, both West Indian negroes, who were convicted at Wilmington, N.C., of a crime of revolting atrocity on the testimony of another seafarer, who died on the scaffold. Their names were Robert Sawyer and Arthur Adams. They were convicted of complicity in the murder of the captain, mate, engineer, cook, and one of the sailors of the schooner, Harry A. Berwind, while she was sailing from Mobile to Philadelphia on Oct. 10, 1906. After reading the announcement of Mr. Warner, Adams wrote the actor a letter stating the case of himself and Sawyer, and asserting the innocence of both. Mr. Warner became deeply interested in the case, and communicated immediately with his attorney, Mr. Buhler who also entered into it as zealously as did the actor. Together they obtained all the information possible concerning the murder of the schooner's crew and the circumstances surrounding the conviction of the two sailors. Mr. Warner and Mr. Buhler were both finally convinced that the two negroes were the victims of false testimony, and resolved to obtain their liberation. With all the information he had thus obtained, Mr. Buhler proceeded to draft a full and exhaustive petition to President Taft, asking for a pardon. He dispatched the petition, a voluminous document of 188 pages, to Washington, where it struck a tangle of red tape. But the attorney, encouraged by Mr. Warner, made repeated trips to Washington, where he brought the matter to the attention of Ambassador Bryce and other prominent men. Finally, in December, 1911, President Taft gave the attorney an interview, and a week later granted a full pardon to the two prisoners. Adams accompanied Mr. Warner to the Pacific Coast last season as his valet.

Many anecdotes are extant regarding the vagaries of Mr. Thornton, once the manager of the Windsor Theatre, of which the following are certainly amusing. After playing Bulcazin Muley in "The Mountaineers" before the Royal Family, he was commanded to attend the Castle for further orders. He instantly undressed, put on a great coat, and went to keep the appointment. On being ushered into the room in which he usually received instructions, he knelt to address an illustrious personage, who instantly burst into a loud fit of laughter and suddenly retired, leaving the actor bewildered. Thornton, while ruminating on the cause of this strange occurrence, caught his reflection in a looking-glass, which at once explained the mystery. His countenance was adorned with an enormous pair of whiskers and besmeared with ochre, just as he had impersonated the Moorish chief. Again, while dressing for an evening performance, he sought for a clean shirt where it was usually deposited, but, not finding it, he sent for his wife who assured him that she had put four shirts there the previous day. Another was immediately sent for, and while putting it on it was discovered that he had already put on the four in the search for which so much time had been lost!

CROYDON REPERTORY SEASON.

The fourth week of the Croydon Repertory Season on Monday was commenced successfully, the attraction being a capitally staged rendering of Macdonald Hastings' three-act play, "The New Sin." Mr. John Napper puts in genuine work as Jim Benziger. Mr. William Stack may be congratulated upon his admirable portrayal of the part of Peel, which does him credit. Mr. Eille Norwood submits a fine, bold impersonation of Hilary Cutts. His efforts are rightly directed, and his convincing acting received due recognition. Mr. James Gelderd makes a decidedly good impression as Will Grain; Mr. Stanley Lathbury is first-rate in the character of David Davids; Mr.

[*Photo by Foulsham and Banfield.*

MISS COMPTON.

A. E. Filmer scores in the rôle of Maximilian Cutts; and Mr. Richard Edridge gives a capital sketch of Stuart Campbell.

The play was preceded by

"FIRST AID."

A Comedy in One Act, by Joan and Richard Edridge.

Blanche ..... Miss Joan Edridge
Mary ..... Miss Pearl Keats
The Man ..... Mr. Richard Edridge

This proved an exceedingly interesting little playlet, cleverly thought out, and creditably written. The Man is on a holiday bicycle tour and stops in a wood to rest. His bicycle is laid aside, and he stretches himself out on the ground for a nap. Blanche and Mary, evidently on a picnic excursion, pass that way, and think he has met with a bicycle accident and is insensible. He is, however, wide awake, and watching developments. The two girls have recently taken lessons in first aid, and consider this a good opportunity to test their skill. Much amusement is caused by their going over the man to see what is wrong with him. His coat sleeves are cut, and they pass their hands carefully over his arms, legs, and body, in search of fractures. The situation here is very quaint, as it is evident the poor victim is ticklish. Blanche goes off to fetch some water, when he gets up and explains that there is nothing the matter. He enjoys tea with Mary until Blanche returns. The former then retires, leaving Blanche and The Man together. It is soon evident that they have taken a liking to each other, which ripens into a closer acquaintance, the play concluding with an assurance from Blanche that she will meet him again to-morrow in the same spot in the wood. Miss Joan Edridge gives a charming and natural portrait as Blanche, and wins all hearts with her winsome acting. Miss Pearl Keats is well placed as Mary, and gives a sprightly impersonation. Mr. Richard Edridge in the male part acquits himself to the general satisfaction.

THE GERMAN THEATRE CO. AT COSMOPOLIS.

At the Cosmopolis Theatre, on May 4, under the auspices of the German Theatre Co., took place the benefit performance of Herr Leopold Miller, formerly "Königl. Hofschauspieler." The first part of the programme consisted of Tennyson's "Enoch Arden," read to the accompaniment

[*Photo by Foulsham and Banfield.*

MISS IRENE VANBRUGH.

of the music of Richard Strauss, with much elocutionary skill, in German, by Herr Miller, who succeeded in retaining the interest of his audience to the close. This was followed by the little comedy, in one act, by Herr Leo. Miller, entitled "Die Maske; or, The Disguise." As Maximilian Theik, the famous actor, who, in his make-up as a dissipated loafer, succeeded in deceiving the burglar in his house and thus circumventing him, Herr Miller was exceedingly good. He was well supported by Herr Ernst Nadler and Fritz Triebe, the former as the burglar and the latter in the small part of the servant, Fipps.

The London and North Western Railway are running a new luncheon car express on Sundays, very largely for theatrical people and music hall artistes, at the following times: Euston, departure 12.30 noon; Coventry, arrival, 2.15 p.m.; Birmingham, arrival 2.40 p.m.; Wolverhampton, arrival 3.10 p.m.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

MASS MEETING AT DRURY LANE.

The strength of the Actresses' Franchise League was demonstrated on Friday, the 2nd inst., when a mass meeting was held at Drury Lane Theatre, the stage of which was crowded with leading ladies, while Mr. Forbes-Robertson listened to the speeches from the recesses of a private box. The immense auditorium was packed in every part except the gallery, and the proceedings were animated and inspiriting. All round the dress-circle were hung banners symbolical of suffrage societies, some bearing the names of distinguished actresses.

One of the features of the afternoon was a collection, in which efforts to outdo their predecessors in generosity were made by members of the audience on the invitation of Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett, who pleaded so hard that over £300 was raised.

Miss Ellen Terry started the collection with two guineas, Miss Adeline Bourne gave two, Miss Lena Ashwell added two more, and when the list had reached £8 Miss Gertrude Elliott aroused great enthusiasm by doubling the amount. The distinction of being the first male contributor belongs to Mr. Sydney Valentine, who gave a guinea amid loud applause. Miss Eva Moore gave £3, Miss Ethel Warwick £2, Mr. Ben Webster £2, Miss Janette Steer two guineas, and Mme. Yavorska one guinea. Loud cheers also greeted the an-

MISS GERTRUDE ELLIOT.

nouncement that a lady in a private box would give £100.

Another incident of the afternoon was the protest entered by Miss Irene Vanbrugh, who said she had no sympathy with militant methods which had brought a terrible disaster at the present time, a remark that was greeted with cheers and hisses. She felt she had a right to say this because the terms of the resolution dealt with the bringing in of a Government measure, by which means alone the present deplorable state of disorder could be prevented. There was a deplorable state of disorder—(A Voice: "It is the Government's fault")—which had been caused by a section of the militants.

Loud cries of dissent were raised, and Miss Vanbrugh, saying she felt she was playing an unsympathetic part, resumed her seat.

Lady Willoughby de Broke presided, and, in opening the meeting, said the history of the

[*Photo by S. Langfier.*

MISS EVA MOORE.

national drama was greatly connected with women. Since the Restoration the influence of women upon the drama had been progressive and illuminative. There was no profession which could appeal for women's votes with greater confidence than that noble profession which had been enriched by those illustrious women who had borne the names of Murray, Kemble, Bateman, Robertson, and Terry. (Cheers.) She proposed the following resolution:—

"That this meeting, believing that the removal of the political disabilities of the women of the country is the most urgently needed of all reforms, strongly condemns the manner in which the Government has dealt with this great question. It calls upon the Prime Minister to remove this personal veto, and to fulfil his pledge (made to the Actresses' Franchise and other suffrage leagues on Nov. 17, 1911, and subsequently confirmed by him in writing) in the only possible way, by bringing in a Government measure, by which alone the present deplorable state of disorder can be prevented and the women of the country enfranchised."

The resolution was seconded by Miss Gertrude Elliott, president of the League, who said that one of the objections raised to the Actresses' Franchise League was that women should not dabble in politics. They all agreed. Neither should lawyers, doctors, nor anyone else. In or out of politics, the dabbler was the last person they wanted. But that did not imply that an actor should reject all knowledge of the laws and government of his country, that he should be content to "sit below the salt" at the table of his fellow citizens. If he did, she thought he deserved the name of rogue and vagabond, which used to belong to him, and not that of an actor of modern times. Another objection was that, while political reform might be a burning question for so-called working women, it did not appeal to actresses, whose place was as secure and pay as advantageous as that of the actor. The actress's position was quite as good as the actor's in the world of the theatre. But actresses were women, and so long as they knew women suffered from sex disability, actresses did also. Woman franchise was, as they all knew, only a means to an end. Reforms were urgently needed—reforms affecting the protection of little children. Those things were women's work, and belonged to

MISS LENA ASHWELL.

women's sphere, but without a Parliamentary vote they could not hope to speak with the voice of authority. There was a fear rampant in many breasts that with the possession of the vote women would lose their womanliness and motherliness. (Laughter.) Those who had seen the working woman's franchise in action knew that was not so. Two years ago she was in Colorado for a week, and was struck by the fact that women who there had the vote and also sat in the State Legislature, gave all their time to those things which were admitted to be their work. They were fighting about a home for old men and the care of the aged, and there was a Bill about little children. That showed that public womanliness had not vanished. The demand for the vote meant the realisation of responsibility. Women should work side by side with men through the ages to better and better things unhandicapped by law. It should not be, as a very great poet once wrote, "He for God only, she for God in him." That poet was John Milton, but, alas! he was blind.

Miss Compton said all her life she had been a worshipper at the shrine of common sense, and common sense told her the average woman was quite as likely to vote intelligently as the average man. She wanted a vote because, as an income-tax payer, she had a share in that well-established company the British Empire, Limited, though she did not know whether the transaction was to be regarded as a gamble or only an investment. (Laughter). Anyhow, she did not like the present board of directors. Standing in that time-honoured temple of the drama, a long procession of Shakespeare's heroines seemed to pass before her, smarting under the suggestion that their equality with men should be questioned or denied. Orlando wrestled with Charles and overthrew him, but afterwards wrestled with Rosalind and got the worst of it. Beatrice took Benedick in hand and the result was equally satisfactory to the distaff division. Portia not only proved that she could talk law, but also that she knew how to lay it down; Volumnia taught her son the true meaning of patriotism; and if anybody had hinted to Lady Macbeth that she was not equal to her husband in courage, purpose, or brain power, there would have been trouble in Dunsinane long before there was. (Laughter and cheers.) It had been said that to give the vote to women would be unfair to the opposite sex, but she reminded them that their cause had a

[*Photo by Daily Mirror Studios.*

MADAME LYDIA YAVORSKA.

long list of great men's names at the back of it, from John Stuart Mill to Johnston Forbes-Robertson. Men had reason to welcome and not fear the comradeship of women on equal terms. The day of woman's emancipation was at hand, because justice, truth, fairness, and reason were on their side.

Miss Eva Moore said it was easy for women to sit in their comfortable homes, shut their eyes to suffering, and say "God's in His heaven; all's right with the world." All was not right with the world. Women who were mothers, and those who hoped to be some day, would love them none the less if they helped to alleviate the sufferings of their own sex. She denounced the custom of giving sentences like six months' hard labour to men who were convicted of criminal offences upon young girls. She said that in 1912, in one town alone, 807 little children who had been thus treated passed through the hands of the Children's Protection Society. "What," said the speaker, amid applause, "should I do if my little girl was so treated? No law would hold me!" Men who had been guilty of such atrocities should not be given short sentences, but treated as mad dogs and destroyed. The possession of the vote was the best means of crushing that hideous crime. (Cheers.)

Mme. Yavorska said the English Government said to women that they were not ripe for freedom, but she could not understand how England, who had always been in the forefront of the struggle for freedom, should refuse to make women citizens. Society did not protect women, so women must protect themselves.

Miss Lena Ashwell pleaded the cause of women workers. Women in this country worked anything from 10 to 32 hours without stopping. The average wage of women was 7s. 6d. per week, and in the Minority Report it was stated that it was impossible for a human being to live decently under 12s. 9d. per week. Let them not at this great moment be put off by any criticism of anybody, but ask the anti-suffragist to meditate on the question, and get her to realise that the one thing necessary to the women of this country was the vote. (Applause.)

Addresses were also delivered by Mrs. Chapman Catt, president of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance, and Miss Lind-af-Hageby. Miss Marie Tempest, who was to have spoken, was unable to be present.

The resolution was passed amid much enthusiasm. A vote of thanks to Mr. Arthur Collins and Mr. Forbes-Robertson for lending the theatre was also heartily endorsed.

MISS MARIE COX'S RECITAL.

A comprehensive programme, selected with taste and skill, was given recently at the Balham Assembly Rooms, when Miss Marie Cox "presented" herself in a dramatic recital. It was no small undertaking on the part of so young an artiste to provide an evening's entertainment with the help of only four other performers, but she emerged with flying colours. Miss Cox is an associate of the Guildhall School of Music, and has little to learn in the way of technique. Her first essay was the reading of Macbeth's fateful letter to his designing spouse, and though the reader overtaxed her voice in the endeavour to obtain emphasis, she suggested Lady Macbeth's malignant character perfectly. Of Miss Cox's other contributions the most effective was W. S. Gilbert's many-sided recitation, "The Actor," which she delivered with the requisite variety of tone and appropriate action. Austin Dobson's poems, "The Sundial" and "The Pompadour's Fan," were rendered with delicacy and grace, and three Irish poems were clothed with all their native charm.

The characteristics of the small boy were faithfully reflected in two short poems by J. Whitcomb Riley, entitled "Prior to Miss Belle's Appearance" and "Seeing Things at Night," the latter piece dealing amusingly with the apprehensions of a juvenile with the fear of nightmare strong upon him. Miss Cox was encored repeatedly, and among the pieces given in response were the popular "Nini, Ninette, Ninon," recited with much vivacity, "A Parable of Life," and the Western episode, "'Specially Jim." Included in the programme was also Mr. C. Beerbohm's clever comedietta, "Charity Begins at Home," in which Miss Cox, as an engaging young lady who brings a backward bachelor to the proposing point by means of a play rehearsal, had the invaluable assistance of Mr. Cairns James, who acted in his best comedy style and aroused constant laughter.

The remainder of the programme was made up of first-class selections by youthful but gifted artistes. Miss Edyth Harrhy, a brilliant pianist, played among other pieces Brahms' difficult Rhapsodie in B minor, and was heartily recalled. Miss Nellie Walker, a contralto with a voice of remarkable range and tunefulness, delighted the audience with several songs, and Mr. Walter Dennis, a cultivated tenor, sang ballads artistically, being particularly admirable in the late Coleridge-Taylor's "Onaway, Awake, Beloved."

DEATH ON THE STAGE.

At the Market Hotel, West Hartlepool, on Monday afternoon, the coroner (Mr. J. H. Bell) conducted an inquest on the body of William Henry Jacques, of 15, Bailey-street, West Hartlepool. Deceased, who was employed as a stage-hand at the Palace Theatre, expired suddenly some time before the first performance on Saturday night.

William Dixon, stage-manager at the Palace Theatre, said that on Saturday night he was standing in the middle of the stage when Jacques came in. Deceased swept the stage down and also assisted witness to lay a carpet. A short time afterwards witness heard a noise, and on turning round he saw deceased lying on the floor. With assistance, witness carried him on to a sofa. He had known deceased five years, during the whole of which period he had served at the theatre. In February last deceased was off duty owing to an influenza cold. He was a very reliable and trustworthy servant.

After the medical evidence the jury returned a verdict that death was due to heart failure, accelerated by an accident.

The Abbey Theatre Players visited Tralee last week and played before very large audiences at the Theatre Royal. It was the first visit to this town of the Abbey company, and a very pleasing programme entertained those who filled the theatre each night.

41,598 persons paid for admission to Shakespeare's House at Stratford-on-Avon last year, and nearly 26,000 visited Anne Hathaway's Cottage. The number of visitors to New Place Museum, which adjoins the site of the house in which the poet died, more than doubled that of any earlier year. The visitors' album at the birthplace showed that 69 different nationalities were represented.

Messrs. Christy and Moore, Ltd., the literary agents and dramatic authors' agents, have secured the exclusive services of Mr. Frederick Whelan in connection with the dramatic side of their work. Mr. Whelan is well known as the founder of the Stage Society, of which he is also chairman, and his many years' association with Sir Herbert Tree at His Majesty's Theatre and as director of the Afternoon Theatre will increase the agency's efficiency in obtaining production for dramatic work.

Garrick was once present with the celebrated Dr. Johnson at the table of a nobleman, where, among other guests, was one of whose near connections some disgraceful anecdote was then in circulation. This tale had reached the ears of Johnson, who, after dinner, took an opportunity of relating it in his most acrimonious manner. Garrick, who sat next to him, pinched his arm and trod on his toe, and generally made use of other means to interrupt the thread of the narration, all to no purpose, however. The Doctor slowly proceeded, and when he had finished the story he gravely turned to the actor, of whom before he had taken no notice whatever, and said: "Thrice, Davy, have you trod upon my toe; thrice have you pinched my arm, and now, if what I have related be a falsehood, convince me before this company." Garrick could reply nothing, and he frequently declared afterwards that he never felt so much perturbation, not even when he met his "father's ghost."

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

Correspondents will please note that it is absolutely necessary that all copy should reach us on Wednesday mornings by first post.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 5,
"THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER."

A warm welcome is always assured at the King's Theatre for Strauss' delightful comic opera, and on Monday evening a large audience evinced the utmost satisfaction with each song and chorus, and the smartly written story. The humorous element—so often lacking in light opera, but so essential—is well to the fore, and therefore an entertaining evening can be well spent with "The Chocolate Soldier." The part of Lieut. Bumerlie is still in the very capable hands of Mr. Charles R. Walenn, whose impersonation has ripened so much that it could not be bettered. His singing is extremely pleasant, and his amusing acting causes no end of smiles and laughter. Mr. Arthur Reynolds makes a capital Colonel Popoff, and Alexius Spiridoff is well rendered in conceited fashion by Mr. Frederick Leigh, whose singing is gladdening to the ear. The very fierce and fiery-looking Captain Massakroff is cleverly undertaken by Mr. Jack Martin, whose make up and style are inimitable. Nadina is represented by Miss Margaret Ismay, who, in addition to possessing a handsome appearance, acts very pleasingly, and sings exceedingly charmingly the waltz song and the other tuneful melodies to the delight of her hearers. A popular success is gained by Miss May Tomlinson in the character of Mascha, who is vivacity itself, and has a very winning personality. Aurelia Popoff is splendidly undertaken by Miss May Clarke, and Miss Evelyn Vernham is successful as the housemaid Katinka. The chorus, male and female, act with spirit, and sing in true unison, while the costumes and scenery are of the best and brightest combinations. Mr. Alfred C. Reynolds ably controls the augmented orchestra.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, May 5, Wagner's Opera,
"LOHENGRIN."

The Carl Rosa Opera Company are finishing their fortnight's visit to Notting Hill Gate this week, and great success has attended their appearance here. The programme for the week has included "Cavalleria Rusticana," "Pagliacci," "Mignon," "Carmen," "The Magic Flute," "Tannhäuser," and "Faust." On Monday Wagner's grand stirring opera, "Lohengrin," was admirably rendered by this exceedingly well-drilled, cultivated, and sweet-voiced company. Eugene Goossens gave a most painstaking and artistic handling of the conductor's bâton, and the augmented orchestra responded to his call in commendable fashion. Mr. William Wigener is an ideal Lohengrin, tall, handsome, and dashing in appearance, with a rich, resonant, flexible tenor voice, and his acting was convincing. Miss Ina Hill as Elsa proved herself possessed of a voice of exquisite timbre and sympathetic expression, and she aptly portrayed Elsa's doubts and misgivings as to the identity of her unknown rescuer, the Knight of the Holy Grail, prompted by the serpent's tongue of Ortrud. That character was played with fine dramatic effect by Miss Phyllis Archibald, and her declamatory song in Act II., where she plans for Elsa's undoing, was admirably rendered. Mr. Hebden Foster was very impressive, and sang remarkably well as the sinister conspirator, Telromund. Mr. Arthur Winckworth was satisfactory as King Henry the Flower, as was also Mr. Frederick Clendon as the Herald. The chorus is excellently well drilled and sings in unison, to the complete satisfaction of the [illegible]tors. Mr. George Beale is stage-manager. Miss Marie Tempest, in "The Handful," for Whit week.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 5, the Play, entitled
"THE SECOND IN COMMAND."

This well-known and very popular tale of soldier life, which has run through two successful seasons at the Haymarket and the Playhouse, was produced at this theatre for the first time on Monday evening, and the audience could not but be delighted with the clever dialogue from the pen of Captain Robert Marshall. Each of the four acts was listened to with great interest, and the telling situations were breathlessly watched. Playgoers of all ages are partial to the military, and always delight in scenes portrayed in camp, barracks, or mess-room. The patriotic touch, again, ever enlists the sympathies of those who frequent our theatres, and these elements are to be found in this well-written play. Who could possibly help being fascinated by the doings and entertained by the humorous sallies of the principal character, Major Bingham, who, though only second in command of his regiment, is ever first in the hearts of the audience? Mr. Charles N. Sandford, who undertook the part, is deserving of much praise, for he gave such a rendering of the character as would have assuredly pleased the heart of the author. Colonel Anstruther, D.S.O., was earnestly played by Mr. Sidney Vautier, who was very impressive in his love scene with the heroine. Miss Evelyn Cecil was cast for that impressionable lady, Muriel Mannering, and with pleasing acting and a pretty face was quite satisfactory. Miss Mary Mallalieu was a bright and vivacious Norah Vining, and Lady Harburgh was amusingly rendered by Miss Gertrude Le Sage. Mr. Bertram Burleigh had to sustain the unpleasant part of Sir Walter Mannering (Lieut.), and gave a correct rendering of that dissipated youth. Mr. Deane Carter as Hildebrand Carstairs was humorous throughout, and deserves more than a word of favourable mention. Mr. James Hussey was "quite all right" as Peter Barker; while the lesser parts of Medenham, the mess waiter; Hertopp, the colonel's servant; Mr. Fenwick, the lawyer; and the Duke of Hull were in safe hands as presented respectively by Mr. Stanley Grant, Mr. Chesney Allen, Mr. Trevor Sylvian, and Mr. Arthur Gibbons. The play was commendably produced by Mr. Arthur Gibbons, the scenery and effects being very praiseworthy.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 5, the Drama, entitled
"SAVED FROM THE MORMONS."

Mr. John F. Preston's company is this week presenting the above strong drama, which is full of life and motion, and the story that runs through it is of the manly and heroic order. As the title suggests, the plot is laid in California, among the Mormons, and is intensely realistic. One can imagine the impression that would be made by such a stirring actress as Miss Enid Ross upon the rough miners in the camp of the howling wilderness, when she drops in their midst as the school mistress—the only woman in the camp, barring old Bunker Hill (played by Miss Maud Kynnersley), who hardly counts. Miss Enid Ross plays quietly and effectively, and she very quickly makes friends with her audiences. There is a skill and a determination in her acting of the engaging "Widder," Hulda Brown, which is most marked for its artistic qualities. Mr. John F. Preston as Sandy McGee, the shy miner, but very capable lover, throws himself into the heroism of the part with that distinction and merit only to be expected of so ripe and finished an actor, and the same remark can be fitly applied to Mr. J. Wingold Laurence, who appears in the strong character part of the Parson, otherwise known as Charles Godfrey. Mr. Walter Graham works hard as Hickman, the Mormon, the man who has to deal with the feminine question in respect of the prophet of Salt Lake City, and is well supported by Mr. J. L. Fox as George Browning. Mr. Francis Everard gives us an agreeable surprise, and once more confirms his versatility by a capital rendering of the Judge; whilst the Chinaman, Wishee Washee, is most amusing in the hands of Mr. Herbert Woodin, a very reliable and popular comedian. Miss Edith Leslie assumes the dual rôle of Billy Piper and Nancy Williams, and faithfully succeeds in bringing out the pathos of a trying part. Miss Maud Kynnersley's is only a small part, but she compels it to stand out by the force of good acting. In the nine scenes there are five capital full stage sets, which add greatly to the interpretation of the stirring and exciting play. The drama has been played to good houses throughout the week. Mr. Bernard Laurence Edwards is the able resident-manager, and Mr. Leon Jesse is the musical-director.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 5, the Opera
"CARMEN."

The O'Mara Opera Co. opened a successful week at Kennington Theatre on Monday with a brilliant performance of "Carmen." Mr. O'Mara is touring a strong and highly equipped company, the various members of which take more than a conventional interest in their work. The result is operatic productions of the highest quality. The honours on Monday fell to Mme. Doris Woodall, whose impersonation of Carmen constituted a great and remarkable triumph. Mme. Woodall's vocalisation was good, and her acting superb. She vitalised Carmen with almost magical effect. Mr. Joseph O'Mara was magnificent as Don Jose, being at the very top of his form. His singing was excellent, and he acted with great cleverness. Miss Kathleen McCully was a sympathetic Micaela, her sweet, fresh voice being heard to great advantage. The part of Escamillo was splendidly played by Mr. Alec Tait-Knight, whose robust voice won a double encore for the famous "Toreador" song. The rôles of Frasquita and Mercedes were filled with vivacity and spirit by Miss Marie Lewis and Miss Muriel White respectively. Mr. Joseph Kingsbergen was excellent as Dancairo, and Mr. James Tattersall did well as Remendado. Mr. Arthur Vallance was very good as Morales, and the same must be said of Mr. Kingsley Lark as Zuniga. The singing throughout was of the first order, the chorus being strong in numbers, first-class in quality, and well-balanced withal. The orchestration, under the direction of Mr. Harrison Frewin, was also worthy of the highest praise. On Tuesday "Il Trovatore" was staged, with Miss Edith Evans as Leonora and Mr. William Boland as Manrico. "La Traviata" was presented on Wednesday, "Maritana" on Thursday, and "Huguenots" on Friday. The business done throughout the week justifies the view that for first-class English opera there is a distinct demand in the London suburbs.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, May 5, the Drama, entitled
"SEXTON BLAKE, DETECTIVE."

The attraction here this week is the above well-known drama, which is a very good specimen of the detective play with abundance of excitement, while the humour is plentiful and real. Mr. Fred C. Bailey gives a forceful presentment of the detective hero, and succeeds in enlisting the sympathies of the audience to the fullest extent. Mr. Frank Litchfield, jun., makes a manly young farmer's son as Roger Blackburn. Mr. George H. Asquin acts most effectively as Randolph Lovell. Miss Popy H. Asquin is a sympathetic Marjorie Lovell. Mr. Bert Murray extracts a good deal of humour out of the rôle of the lad, Tinker, and Miss Dorothy Macready ably aids him in the fun-making as his sweetheart, Euphemia Pattacake. Mr. William Stevens enacts the part of the burglar, Simon Faggas, with grim realism, and Miss Lydia Mannington is powerful in the part of Philadelphia Kate. Mr. J. G. Lowther is good as old Farmer Blackburn, while Mr. Herbert Ravenscroft as Inspector Widgeon and Miss Polly Dennison as Mrs. Smith are well in the picture. The famous pedigree bloodhound, Pedro, finds many admirers. The scenery and effects are all that could be desired. Mr. Alfred H. Graham is the general manager for the company, which is under the direction of the Melodrama Production Syndicate.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

On Monday, May 5, the drama, entitled
"A BROKEN HEART."

This excellent drama of domestic life had a most enthusiastic reception during the week. It is performed by a first-rate company headed by that experienced actor, Mr. Fred Maxwell, who gives a powerful study of the hero, John Barnard, the blacksmith. Stephen Raylton is cleverly played by Mr. Edward Avinal. Mr. Hugh Carmichael introduces another of his very capital character studies in his impersonation of Gush Gills. Mr. Vernon Dudley is excellent as the Rev. M. Staunton, the village curate. Mr. Fred Southerrlaw was admirably placed as Skrimpy, the ostrich. Mr. Sid. Kearns played most amusingly the character of Tony Tibbitts, keeping the audience in a continual state of merriment. Miss Winnie Tempest represented with marked ability John's mother, Mrs. Barnard, and a sympathetic portrayal of his wife, Mary, was given by Miss Dorothy Milne. A charming and graceful impersonation of his child, May, was naturally presented by Miss Winnie Rousby. May Day made an agreeable Sally Tarner. Miss Alice Bowes was admirable as Grace Fanshaw. Mrs. Kellet and Dawson, the maid, were ably represented by Sophie Fane and Millie Merson respectively. The remainder of a large company were well played by their respective performers, the drama being excellently mounted and well dressed.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 5, the Drama, entitled
"DAN THE OUTLAW."

Mr. Herbert Shelley's company appear this week at the Dalston Theatre, in the typical Irish drama, "Dan the Outlaw," written by Mr. Shelley, and it must be admitted that in these days of innovation a peep at the old-time Irish costumes, and the accompanying consistent scenery, is refreshingly reminiscent. Mr. Herbert Shelley appears in the dual part of Dan the Outlaw and Wolf Mooroo, a typically callous Irish land agent. As Dan, ever ready to aid and comfort the weak, and to pulverise, when necessary and practicable, the strong, Mr. Shelley is the idol of occupants of all parts of the house; while, of course, as the bullying, scheming, and even murderous Mooroo, he is the subject of general contempt. But, all round, he proves himself a capable actor, and his rendering of several Irish songs entail the complimentary penalty of repetition. Mr. Tom Taylor, who enacts Lord Kinsale, also undertakes the duties of stage-manager, and Mr. Royce Milton is energetic in his deeds of amorous ambition and persecution as the Hon. Dara Kinsale, his son. Mr. Harry Douglas is an active Captain Jefferies, and Mr. Noel Baugh is also well to the fore as the Banshee. Mr. Timothy O'Brien presents a good character sketch as Barney Conolly; Mr. Felix O'Gorman is similarly realistic as Miles Cavan; Mr. Geo. Westbury causes some amusement as a Gordon Highlander; and others in the general cast include Mr. Arthur Tighe as Private Buckley, Mr. Sam King as Private Hunt, and Mr. Emmet Dunbar as Dick Arran. Audiences particularly relish the conversations, pregnant with Hibernian humour, between Mr. John Beauchamp as Dominic Corrigan and Miss Kathleen Bryant as Dolly Corrigan, his daughter. Miss Alma Shelley prettily and most effectively portrays the character of Eileen, a foundling, and Miss Sophie Larkin enlists the sympathy of all as Robin, a cripple boy.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 5, the Drama, entitled
"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."

Picturesque melodrama, with a strong dash of rag-time melody thrown in, is a sure card to play with popular audiences, and the patrons of the Stratford Theatre Royal are finding "The Cowboy's Revenge" much to their liking this week. The piece is staged with plenty of local atmosphere, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Benge's company is quite up to its work. Mr. Wilson Benge is a manly and staunch Richard Danvers, and wins plenty of appreciation. Mr. Charles T. Higgins presents a vivid and highly coloured impersonation of Bully Skeets, whose villainy is thoroughly emphasised. Mr. Harry Vayne is well cast as Handsome Jim Travers, and Mr. Lauri Moynaham as the magistrate dispenses justice very satisfactorily, besides taking a hand in the rag-time interludes. Mr. Austin Dean fulfils all requirements as Mr. Dawson; Mr. Frank Masters is good as Tom Archer; and Mr. Frank Kavanagh is decidedly entertaining as the ubiquitous Chinaman, Ching Woo. Miss Maud Hastings plays with tact and sympathy as Nell Dawson; Miss Sadie Smith is a very "goey" and interesting Hurricane Kate; and Miss Nellie Hazel is a pretty and piquant Susan Dawson. In the speciality scene Vayne and Hazel, Frank Masters, and the Hennessys all appear to advantage. A rag-time competition for money prizes is also in the bill, and is proving a capital attraction. The successful aspirants for syncopated melody honours are to appear at to-night's performance.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

The Moody-Manners Opera Company are providing local playgoers with a musical treat this week, of which they are taking full advantage. On Monday night "Carmen" was in the bill, and a splendid interpretation of Bizet's opera was given. Mlle. Zelie de Lussan's performance in the title-rôle was as artistic and perfect as ever, and her delightful vocalism charmed her hearers immeasurably. Mr. Aubrey Standing was an ardent and persistent wooer as Don Jose, and most of his singing was particularly fine. Mr. Charles Moorhouse made a virile and vigorous Escamillo, and his rendering of the "Toreador" song was a vocal treat. Miss Walker made a girlish and sympathetic Micaela, and sang with much charm and expression. Miss McCarthy and Miss Rigby rendered the numbers allotted to Mercedes and Frasquita in most acceptable manner. As the smugglers, Dancairo and Remendado, Mr. Davies and Mr. Moppett were seen and heard to distinct advantage; and skilful performances came from Mr. Minnett and Mr. Cliffe as Morales and Zuniga respectively. The opera was staged and dressed in exemplary style, and much praise was due to the chorus and largely augmented orchestra. Mr. Herbert Ferrers conducted finely. "Faust" was performed on Tuesday night, with Mr. Charles Manners as Mephistopheles, Mr. Wilson Pembroke as Faust, and Miss Florence Morden as Marguerite. "Il Trovatore" was the attraction on Wednesday, and other operas performed during the week were "Maritana," "Elijah," and "Tannhäuser," with "The Bohemian Girl" to be played to-night.

BOW PALACE.

On Monday, May 5, the Drama,
"HER SECRET LOVER."

Mr. H. G. Brandon has produced an excellent play in "Her Secret Lover," and one which abounds in thrilling situations and intense interest, and is acted throughout in a very forcible manner. Miss Florence Baines as Ivy Seymour, the misjudged wife, is exceptionally good in an impersonation which calls for much dramatic feeling. The part of Alecia Royale is capably undertaken by Miss Mabel Coleman, and she proves herself quite equal to the power it demands. The Jane Maria Wilkes of Millie Phillips was a clever and decidedly humorous portrayal. As Gilbert Seymour Mr. Alfred Lugg acts with sincerity, and shows a sound knowledge of his part; while the Captain Darrell Rose of Mr. Roy Lorraine is in every way a creditable performance. Much praise is due to Mr. Arthur Stratton as the villainous John Strange, his depiction being very real and convincing. The rôle of the old father, Mr. Mirfield, is ably taken by Mr. Fred. L. Coningham. As Bill Bailey Mr. Eric Campbell keeps the audience in a state of merriment the whole evening, his humorous delineation being quite a feature, and he is to be congratulated on the histrionic ability he displays. Mr. Matt Wilkinson creates considerable merriment as Jim Jones, and as Sergeant Smith Mr. Archie Grant makes the part an interesting one. The minor rôles of Inspector Wilson (Mr. W. Wait), Warder Phillips, Mr. George Edwards, Rev. Arthur Holmes (Mr. W. S. Stevenson), and Vernon Cooper (Mr. E. de Vere), are suitably cast. The Bioscope was as interesting as ever.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

On Monday, May 5, the Play, entitled
"IN THE SOUP."

Plucky Messrs. Bransgrove and H. C. Slaughter have now entered the shallows of management, and we wish their enterprise a prosperous voyage. For months past these clever entrepreneurs have presented from time to time excellent reproductions from West-End houses; as we have often pointed out in these columns, their presentations have been marked by excellent judgment, refined taste, and considerable expenditure. This week Ralph Lumley's "In the Soup" is presented. It is quite brightly rattled through by a singularly capable company. Mr. Louis Palgrave is delightful as the imperturbable Gillibrand; Mr. Fred Lister works hard as Paul Hemming; and Mr. A. Borthwick is capital as Ruppershaw. Miss Miriam March is delightful as Delphine, and Miss Beatrice Marsdene is a fine Judith. Miss Talbot is good as Lilian, while smaller rôles receive careful attention. Mr. Louis Palgrave is responsible for the stage-managership, and does it admirably.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 5, the Drama, entitled
"THE OUTCAST OF THE FAMILY."

Mr. and Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company are paying a return visit here this week, after an absence of nearly two years, with this stirring drama. Mr. F. Wybert Clive himself capitally portrays the aristocratic old squire, Sir Henry Thorne, Bart. His son, Harry, is effectively enacted by Mr. Eric Norman, who never overdoes the heroics of the part. Mr. John Worth makes a powerful Stephen Barrie, the village blacksmith. Miss Maud Steeples acts with great charm as Ruth, Harry's fiancée, her performance throughout being most sympathetic. Mr. H. C. Ward as the villainous Richard Martin gives a very effective portrayal. Stella D'Alroy is powerfully delineated by Miss Freda Becket (Mrs. Wybert Clive). Abraham Wasper, a bailiff, is cleverly played by Mr. Cyril Craven. Clever, clean, and crisp comedy is capably brought out by Miss Addie Burrows as Nancy Bray, a pert milkmaid, and Mr. Fred Luard (who is also stage-manager) as a country bumpkin, Joe Bushell. The minor rôles are in safe hands. The scenery and effects are excellent, the cave scene especially, wherein the men are entombed in the ruins, being a triumph of stage-craft.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 5, the Opera, entitled
"THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD."

The Arcadian Operatic Society are presenting Gilbert and Sullivan's charming opera here this week. The gallant Colonel Fairfax is well impersonated by Mr. Thomas Edgar, whose fine tenor voice is heard to great advantage in the various items allotted to the rôle. As Elsie Maynard Miss Helen Ladbrooke, a well-known local vocalist, scores a decided success, and the same may be said of Mr. Herbert W. Tansley as the courtly lieutenant of the Tower. The pathetic part of the strolling player, Jack Point, is in the excellent hands of Mr. W. G. Watson, who is also the producer of the opera. Mr. Joseph Gronow gives a finished performance as the bluff old Sergeant Meryll. To Mr. Sydney T. White falls the rôle of his son, Leonard, a capital impersonation. Mrs. W. G. Watson's contralto voice is well suited for Dame Carruthers; whilst Miss Millicent Howard fills the rôle of Kate, her niece, admirably. Mrs. Frank Dyke is well suited in the part of Phœbe Meryll, and her singing of the spinning wheel song is decidedly good. As the jailer, Wilfred Shadbolt, Mr. Percy Felix has a part which fits his versatile abilities to a nicety, and he gives a faithful rendering of the lovesick assistant tormentor. The principals are supported by a full operatic chorus and a specially augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Frederick W. Courtenay.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

On Monday, May 5, the Play, entitled
"MILESTONES."

As was to be expected, the long-looked-for visit of Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie's strong company with "Milestones" is drawing large houses this week. The setting and staging are perfect, and the dresses for each period superb. Mr. Wilfrid Caithness fulfils all the manly requirements of John Rhead, afterwards Sir John, with distinction. As Samuel Sibley, Mr. Wilfred Eaton has opportunities for displaying his talent, none of which he misses, in an excellent reading. Mr. Fernley Bisshopp plays Ned Pym with marked ability, also infusing a touch of humour. A capital study of Arthur Preece comes from Mr. C. Probyn Dighton. Young Lord Monkhurst is presented in an easy style by Mr. B. M. Hallward. Richard Sibley has a capable exponent in Mr. Charles Field. Mr. Herbert Rouen makes the most of the rôle of Thompson; and Mr. George Hewetson suitably portrays Webster. Miss May Lincoln, an actress of much ability, had an enthusiastic reception for her finished impersonation of Rose Sibley, afterwards Lady Rhead. Miss Lynn Fontanne is most impressive as Gertrude Rhead, and adds materially to the success of the piece. Miss Bertha Wilkinson merits praise for a clever and powerful interpretation of Emily Rhead, afterwards Lady Monkhurst. Miss Violet Gibbs is a charming and determined Hon. Muriel Pym; Miss Nellie Griffen is excellent, and wins admiration as Mrs. Rhead; whilst Miss Alice M Maud contributes the necessary comedy in fine style as Nancy Sibley. Mr. Wilfred Eaton is the alert stage-manager. The orchestra, under Herr Paul Schafer, contribute some much-appreciated selections; and the manager of the company is Mr. Harry P. Trowers.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street on Tuesday, May 6. Present: Mr. F. J. Arlton (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. William Devereux, John Mortimer, Fredk. Morland, Adnam Sprange, Cyril Cattley, Norman Yates, Fredk. James, C. F. Collings, Miss Laura Leycester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read a letter from a member with regard to an alleged claim. After discussion, Mr. Morland moved, seconded by Mr. James, that a letter be written that the Council cannot take any action unless the facts can be laid more clearly before them. Carried.

The secretary read a letter from a member, pointing out that after being engaged for a trial week's performance, he received a wire cancelling the engagement, and the hon. solicitor was instructed to write and report.

The hon. solicitor reported on three cases.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Mortimer, and adopted on the motion of Mr. Sprange, seconded by Mr. Yates.

The House Committee's report was read by Mr. Mortimer, and carried unanimously. The estimates for re-covering of the furniture in the general room was referred back to the House Committee. Mr. Mortimer moved that the cleaning and redecorating be done within a fortnight, seconded by Mr. Cattley, and carried unanimously. Mr. Morland moved, seconded by Mr. Cattley, that the House Committee personally superintend the rehanging of the pictures, etc. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Cattley moved that the rooms of the Association be closed on Saturday for the re-painting, etc., of staircase, and Monday for the Whitsun holiday, but the staff should attend on Saturday for re-direction of letters, and a notice to that effect be placed on the board. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Cyril Cattley moved: "That the Council enter into communication with the Society of West-End Managers, the Theatrical Managers' Association, and the Touring Managers' Association, with the view of sending a combined deputation to the National Health Insurance Commissioners with regard to the conditions of medical service under the National Health Insurance Act, in so far as it affects members of the theatrical profession on tour." Seconded by Mr. Sprange, and carried unanimously.

Mr. James moved that Mr. Cattley be appointed to attend on the different associations with regard to the matter. Seconded by Mr. Yates, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Arlton reported that the arrangements for the Wildest Worst Menagerie for the Actors' Orphanage Fête were progressing very satisfactorily, and that full details would be reported next week.

Mr. Yates moved, and Miss Leycester seconded, that in future the minutes of the bi-monthly meeting be read to the Council at their next meeting. Carried.

Elections: Ivan Murray, E. Rayson Cousens.

Nominations: Ethel Monks, R. S. Trelawny, and Vane Sutton Vane.

The question of an election was referred back, and on the motion of Mr. Morland, seconded by Mr. Cattley, it was agreed that a letter be written that the Council will be pleased to consider the election after more experience. Also a letter to the proposer and seconder.

The secretary tendered the resignation of Miss Flawith, and was instructed to get someone else in her place, and also to write a letter conveying the thanks of the Council for her past services, and wishing her every happiness. On the motion of Mr. Morland, seconded by Mr. Mortimer, a fund for a wedding present was opened. Mr. Mortimer suggested that a boy be kept as well, seconded by Mr. Collings, which was referred to the Finance Committee to deal with.

Miss Violet Beatrice has been achieving remarkable success in the part of Caprice Julien in "The White Slave Traffic," which is at the Elephant and Castle Theatre this week. She is a clever little actress, and versatile, too, as is shown in the varying moods of Caprice. She is at her best, perhaps, in the love scene in the first act, which held the audience spellbound on the night of our visit.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Monday evening, May 5, Humperdinck's opera, "Königskinder," had a renewed hearing of the score, which did not detract from one's admiration of the composer's musicianship and rare feeling for poetic expression. The performance was entirely satisfactory. Frl. Angela Sax was unfortunately suffering from a cold, but her voice is sympathetic and well suited to the charming music apportioned to the goose-girl, and she made a pathetic figure as the ill-used maid, singing the beautiful music in the last act with great charm. Herr Ziegler as Königssohn was somewhat ill at ease in the early part of the evening, as no doubt he is not yet accustomed to the surroundings of Covent Garden, being a newcomer from Vienna, like his companion Frl. Angela Sax. But he was heard to great advantage later, especially in the Hellabrun scene, where the pleasant quality of his voice was delivered with full effect and without effort. The cast was in the main familiar, Herr Rudolf Hofbauer repeating his embodiment of the Fiddler, a very finished performance, and difficult to surpass. Herr Hans Bechstein was heard again with pleasure as the Broommaker, while he was efficiently supported by Herr Johannes Fönss as the Woodcutter. Miss Kathleen Howard, as the Witch, sang the music with a tolerable amount of success. Mlle. Schaeffer as the daughter of the innkeeper acquitted herself creditably, and once again little Miss Gladys Beckley was the Töchterchen, managing to make herself heard in the "Rosenringel," a folk-song evidently. Dr. Rottenberg conducted with great sympathy, and a large audience attended, including the Princess Christian and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, accompanied by Prince Arthur of Connaught and Prince Alexander of Battenberg; and also among others, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador and Sir Samuel Scott were together in an omnibus box. Cora Countess of Strafford was in a box on the ground tier, and numerous other distinguished members of society. The scenery must not be overlooked, as it was of great beauty, especially the first scene of the Hella Woods in spring.

On Wednesday last Wagner's "Tristan und Isolde" was given under Dr. Rottenberg, who brought out all the beauties of the music. In the first part Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens appeared to be reserving her powers, but later, when the ill-fated couple drink from the cup prepared for them by Brangäne, there was a noticeable change, and from this portion of the opera to the moving climax of the scene both the heroine and her companion, Herr Peter Cornelius, sang with much eloquence and effect, rising to the full extent of their powers, which were helped greatly by the conductor. The great duet of the second act was excellently carried out, although the singers were compelled rather to force their voices in order to be clearly heard above the orchestra. Nevertheless, the scene was very effective, and Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens' soft and subdued tones in the love music were very beautiful in quality, and the two voices blended well, Herr Cornelius singing in quite an inspired manner, and both artistes acting with great impressiveness and fervour. Once again Herr Van Rooy gave his intelligent reading of the part of Kurwenal, and again Mme. Kirkby Lunn was heard in her pleasing interpretation of Brangäne. Herr Willy Bader was tolerably successful as Konig Marke, and Herr Peter Unkel as Melot made a good impression. Herr Hans Bechstein was a good Ein Hirt, and Mr. Gaston Sargeant made a capital Ein Steuermann. A large audience was present, and included Lady Stamfordham and the Hon. Margaret Bigge, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Captain and the Hon. Mrs. Vandeleur, the Marchioness of Dufferin, and the Countess of Clarendon. The Hon. Henry Coventry was accompanied by Lady Newborough and Viscountess Deerhurst, and many other distinguished members of society.

CLAVIER HALL THEATRICALS.

The bijou hall in Hanover-square is put to many dramatic uses, and among the most agreeable are the performances given periodically by Miss Rosina Filippi, the well-known instructress, by means of which the accomplishments of her protégés are displayed. It is quite a homely affair, and as room behind the scenes is necessarily limited the audience for one item is largely reinforced by those who take part in the other. There are no programmes and no names, and to the uninitiated visitor the identity of the budding Tree might go unrewarded but for inquiries opportunely made.

The items selected do not lack the spirit of ambition, those on Tuesday including Ibsen, Gilbert Murray, and Jerome K. Jerome. The first-named dramatist was represented by the first act of "The Master Builder," which was rendered quite interesting by a representation that would not discredit a professional cast. Solness was artistically played by Mr. Herbert Alexander, who succeeded in making the Master Builder almost comprehensible—a feat of no small difficulty. The infatuated Kaia was entrusted to Miss Grace Kirkby, whose comely and expressive features well adapted her for the part. She exhibited the necessary sense of detachment, and it was largely due to the naturalness of her acting in her interview with the masterful Solness that the Ibsen atmosphere was caught at the very beginning. Miss Kirkby's performance gave excellent indication of still better work in the future. Miss Roy is to be credited with such a bright and animated rendering of Hilda Wangel as to make that very forward young lady possible, and though Miss Crichton hardly made Mrs. Solness sufficiently dolorous, she was appreciably quiet and gentle.

The younger generation, which Solness so much dreaded, was to the fore in Gilbert Murray's "Hippolytus," which was represented chiefly by girls, who performed their task excellently. The best performance was that of Miss Janette Amy Sherwin, a daughter of the famous prima donna, who delivered the nurse's long speeches with elocutionary ability. Miss Mackern realised the grief of the ill-fated Queen effectively, and another commendable achievement was that of Miss Hermione Gingold, who declaimed the lines of Cyprian excellently. The programme was completed by the first act of Mr. Jerome's comedy, "Miss Hobbs," which caused much amusement.

On Monday next a new drama will be produced at the Sadler's Wells Theatre, entitled "Two Big Vagabonds," written by Arthur Shirley.

At the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, was given a special performance, under the auspices of the Actresses' Franchise League, of a new play by Alison Garland, entitled, "The Better Half." The idea is a complete reversal of the existing state of things. In "Homeland" women alone possess the vote. They do the legislating, while the men, not allowed to meddle with politics, have to be content with being soldiers or sailors or policemen—or nothing. But the men are agitating for the vote, and some of their partisans in the House of Representatives—over which presides Madame President, a female "Speaker"—move an amendment in favour of male franchise to a certain Bill introduced for the purpose of including charwomen among the voters of the country. There was humour in the piece, and it was well played by Miss Janette Steer, Miss Victoria Addison, Miss Lucy Milner, Miss Margaret Damer, Mr. Evan Thomas, Mr. H. K. Ayliff, and Mr Miles Malleson.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"MADAME X."

Farce, in Three Acts, by MM. Gavault and Beer, Produced at the Trianon Theatre, April 18.

Ardelot ..... Herr Junkermann
Frau Ardelot ..... Fräulein Corany
Eine Dame ..... Fräulein Holderberg
De la Barre ..... Herr Spira
Bidoulet ..... Herr Conradi
Bernard ..... Herr Stock
Sirraudin ..... Herr Klein
Don José ..... Herr Laurence
Marguerite ..... Fräulein Largarst
Jules ..... Herr Werner
Kommissar ..... Herr Bothmann
Dienstmann ..... Herr Zimpe

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, April 24.—This amusing farce was produced for the first time here—at the Trianon, if my memory serves me rightly—some nine or ten years ago, when it had a long and successful run. Since that time it has not been performed anywhere in Berlin, so that its revival on Friday came as a "premiere" to the majority present. It made a decided hit, chiefly due to the very excellent acting of Herr Junkermann, and wld certainly enjoy a new lease of life. The adventures of the philanthropic hero, Philipp Ardelot, who rescues a fainting lady in the street and takes the unknown quantity to his home never to be rid of her again are too well known to your readers to need detailing. It is all very absurd, very improbable, but very laughable, and the German adaptation by Herr Benno Jacobson is capital, not a point of the original being lost. The rôle of the unknown lady, who loses her memory at a critical juncture, was capitally given by Fräulein Holderberg, and the two clever artistes were well supported all round. The audience laughed and applauded so heartily that the manager appeared to bow his thanks.

Herr Harry Walden, our cleverest character actor, is giving a season at the Deutsches Schauspielhaus (formerly known as the Komische Oper) and is attracting excellent houses. This week Dr. Fulda's five-act comedy, "Der Dummkopf," is in the bill; Herr Walden in the name-part. It affords him every opportunity for his many-sided talents, and the star is well supported by the entire cast, Herr Kaiser-Tietz, as usual, being capital.

The Royal Opera, not to be outdone by the Deutsches Opera House, is looking up a little. The latest thing in the bill is a Wagner cycle with new scenery and arrangements. Some of these are exceedingly good. Thus far "Die Walküre" is the best, the performance of which was a representative one throughout, under the admirable conductorship of Herr Leo Blech. Frau Kurt gave a fine interpretation of Brünhilde, and Frau Hafgren-Wagg an equally good one of Sieglinde. Herr Berger—the former leading baritone of the Royal Opera—was in capital form, and his now very musical tenor was heard to advantage in the rôle of Siegfried. As to the Walküren, they were magnificent, the choir being composed of first-rate artistes, including Mrs. Francis Maclennan, Fräulein Dux, Frau von Scheele-Müller and Fräulein Rothauser. The scenery was very fine, and the crowded house gave the glorious work a rousing reception.

A very pretty and graceful dancer, Fräulein Lucy Kieselhausen, from Vienna, gave a charming performance in the theatre of the Royal High School for Music on Saturday. She danced to Chopin's waltzes, Liszt's "Second Rhapsodie," and Dr. Strauss's "Trümerei," with consummate grace, and received an unusually cordial reception.

"ZWEI WAPPEN."

Farce, in Two Acts, by MM. Blumenthal and Kadelburg, Revived at the Schiller Theatre, April 26.

Baron Wettingen ..... Herr Noack
Rudolf ..... Herr Achterberg
Charlotte ..... Fräulein Hänseler
Dietrich von Bink ..... Herr Paeschke
Graf Dornstedt ..... Herr Kurth
Forster ..... Herr Elzer
Mary ..... Fräulein Becker
Mrs. Stephenson ..... Fräulein Wasa
Wernicke ..... Herr Joseph
Lorenz ..... Herr Siburg
Franz ..... Herr Letroe
Diener ..... Herr Scheere

BERLIN, Thursday, May 1.—This very amusing little piece was produced at another of our theatres a number of years ago, and met with a most cordial reception. The same may be said for it now, and it is a matter of surprise that the revival has been so long in coming. The story of the blending of the two scutcheons—the Yankee tradesman's and the high and mighty baron's—is one of these popular collaborators' best efforts; the amiable humour and familiar characters will always find friends, as long as the acting is good. In this case the interpretation was excellent, as it usually is at the Schiller. The plot is too familiar to your readers to need describing, and it will be sufficient to say that the reception was everything that could be desired. There was the customary full house, and the revival is certain to prove a complete success.

Under the auspices of a recently instituted German philological society, a brief series of English plays was performed at the Royal High School for Music at Charlottenburg, Berlin, this week, Mr. Frank Cellier being at the head of the British company, who brought their own scenery and costumes. The plays given were "The Merchant of Venice" and "The School for Scandal." Mr. Cellier made his mark in both pieces as Shylock and as Sir Peter Teazle. His renderings were admirable, and have been much praised by the critics. Miss Ring acted both the part of Portia and that of Lady Teazle very efficiently, and Mr. Irwine was equally good as Bassanio and Charles Surface. At the afternoon performances a large number of boys and girls of the better-class schools were present, and followed the English performance with intelligent interest.

Theatre crises continue to be the order of the day. Some four or five houses have become insolvent during the past few months, and others are very near it. Of course, the managers put the blame entirely upon the cinematographic theatres, which are all doing good "biz," with very few exceptions. Whether the success of the picture palaces will continue when the summer sets in and the Berliners practically live in the open air is very doubtful. The Komödienhaus, which was in liquidation a week or two ago, is still giving its broad farce, "Herrschaftliche Wohnungen," and the public still continue to go and be amused.

At the New Volks-Theatre on Saturday the "Versuchsbühne"—a society that produces new or rare works—gave a performance of Hebbel's "Julia." This tragedy in five acts never gained much hold on the taste of the general public, and it was so on Saturday. The famous dramatist was not in his happiest vein when he wrote this long-winded play, and, despite fairly good acting, a success was not achieved.

There has been an entire dearth of novelties of late at our theatres, as though the managers had predicted the heat wave that is passing over Berlin. Really the only pieces that are drawing well are "Majolika," at the Lustspielhaus; "Filmzauber," at the Berliner; and "Die Reise Nach Nizza," at the Nollendorf Platz. Of course, this does not apply to the Deutsches and the Lessing, or to the Royal Schauspielhaus, all of which have their faithful devotees, and the same may be said of the Schillers, which, at popular prices and with their excellent companies, always well filled. The remainder of our theatre managers, however, are bitterly complaining.

BERLIN, Thursday, May 8.—With the exception of a few minor events that are not worth recording, we have had a dull week as regards novelties. The managers are doubtless reserving their forces until later, when all Berlin will be en fête for weddings and Royal visits, and other gay and festive doings. In connection with the Emperor's Silver Jubilee, a series of "Festspiele," in the style of the Wiesbaden plays and operas running at the present moment, will be given. For this important innovation—for it is quite new as far as Berlin is concerned—the greatest preparations are being made by the management of the Imperial theatres—the Schauspielhaus and the Opera.

During the month of June the following works will be given at the Royal Opera from the 3rd to the 13th:—"Orpheus und Eurydike," "Zauberflote," "Fidelio," "Hugenotten," "Der Rosenkavalier," "Rheingold," "Walküre," "Siegfried," and "Götterdämmerung." At the Royal Schauspielhaus, "Ariadne auf Naxos," following "Der Bürger als Edelmann," will occupy the bill on June 2, 5, 8, and 11. Particulars have yet to be made known, but we may bet our "bottom dollar" that such a row of distinguished performances have never yet been witnessed in the German capital. Times are indeed changing.

A Wagner cycle is proceeding at the Royal Opera at the present moment, and doing the management every credit. The performance of "Die Walküre" last week, an admirable one in every way, was, perhaps, even surpassed by that of "Siegfried" on Monday. Herr Kirchhof in the name-part sang and acted splendidly, but his voice is not quite strong enough for rôles like this, especially in the Berlin Opera House, whose acoustics are proverbially wretched. Frau Kurt was an excellent Brünhilde, and Fräulein Dux's charming voice was heard to good advantage as the Bird. Frau Arndt-Ober gave a good rendering of Erda, and the other rôles were satisfactorily sustained. As to the mounting, under Herr Droescher's management, it was in the opening act particularly fine, but little things disturbed the eye and ear later on in the evening, the leaving of the whole carcase of the "Worm" in full view of the auditorium throughout an entire act for one thing, and another being the palpable absurdity of the Wood Bird—a small, black figure, that sat motionless on a bough until Fräulein Dux's pretty pipe was heard from the wings, when it made some painfully mechanical hops. Such trifles are not light as air in a Wagner opera, though they might be anywhere else. The orchestra played magnificently, and Herr Leo Blech conducted quite faultlessly.

The Royal Schauspielhaus made a spurt in the right direction last week, and gave a Björnson evening by way of a change from all the mild namby-pamby fare to which we are accustomed. It was not the most judicious selection that might have been made from the eminent dramatist's works, however, but we must give the management credit for good intentions at least. "Zwischen den Schlachten" and "Die Neuvermählten" were put in the bill, and each met with a very cordial reception. The former play, in one act, is typically Norwegian in tone, but it is not very clearly expounded, though its dramatic ability is undoubted. The second piece in the bill, the three-act comedy, "Die Neuvermählten," is a little old-fashioned and sentimental, as its title implies, but the humour made its mark, and the acting was even better than in the serious play, although that was adequate. The Scandinavian plays are holding the boards twice this week.

At the Lessing a new departure was made on Saturday. Our most classical theatre produced a good old farce—Benedix's "Die zärtlichen Verwandten"—and achieved a complete success. The impersonators of Ibsen and Hauptmann proved that they could play Benedix too, and the audience laughed long and heartily at the antiquated jokes. This week the Ibsen cycle is being continued to well-filled houses.

"Filmzauber," at the Berliner, reaches its 200th consecutive performance on Saturday. The management is preparing a surprise in the way of a souvenir for the ladies among the audience, who suspecting something of the kind, will certainly be in the majority.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Maclennan leave the Berlin Royal Opera at the end of the month, and begin their new duties at the Hamburg Opera House in June. They will be much missed by all opera-goers here.

Among the vocal schools that have done first-rate work during the past season, that of Frantz Proschowsky stands out conspicuously, and among Mr. Proschowsky's many successful pupils, Miss Eloise Baylor takes a high place. At a recent recital this young American lady gained great and well-merited praise from the critics. Her voice has a coloratura of unusual beauty and wide range, with the pure, full tone and warmth of a mezzo-soprano, and her execution not only reflects much credit upon her training, but also upon her musical intelligence and industry. Miss Baylor, who rendered a programme including songs and arias by Mozart, Debussy, Scarlatti, and Hué, as well as the Mignon Polonaise and "I've been roaming," should take a prominent place on the concert platform or in grand opera, as her inclination dictates.

NEW PLAYS IN BERLIN.

"Die Einnahme von Berg-op-Zoom," four-act comedy, by Sacha Guitry; Chamber Plays, April 4.

"Hochherrschaftliche Wohnungen," farce-burlesque, in three acts, by Toni Impekoven; Komödienhaus, April 5.

"Veit Stoss," five-act play, by Tim Klein; Royal Schauspielhaus, April 10.

"Der Schleier der Pierette," wordless play, in three acts, by Arthur Schnitzler, music by E. von Dohnànyi; Deutsches Opera House, April 10.

"Tante Simona," one-act opera, by E. von Dohnànyi; Deutsches Opera House, April 10.

"Madame X," farce, in three acts, by MM. Gavault and Berr; Trianon, April 18.

"Der König," burlesque, in four acts, by E. A. de Caillavet and R. de Flers; Deutsches Schauspielhaus, April 23.

Mr. Rich Waldon has arranged for a summer season of pictures at the Royal Princess's, Glasgow, under the direction of the Unity Picture Company. Mr. Waldon has secured many strong dramatic attractions for the autumn.

Three performances of MM. Alexandre Bisson and Fabrice Carre's witty comedy, "Monsieur le Directeur"—an English version of which, by Mr. Arthur Sutro, has been produced under the title of "The Chili Widow"—will be given at the "Cosmopolis" Theatre, 201, High Holborn, on Sunday evening, with Mlle. Juliette Mylo and M. Yves Schwarz in the cast.

Under the auspices of the Ministère de l'Instruction Publique et des Beaux Arts, an interesting exhibition of theatrical art and decoration will be held some time this month in the Cour des Comptes in the Palais Royal, Paris. Mr. Gaston Mayer has been asked by M. Paul Ginisty, the organiser of the exhibition, for a special Chinese exhibit, and is having shipped to Paris a fine model of a Chinese scene, with small figures repre[illegible] the characters, in "The Yellow [illegible]ume.

ACTRESS, AUTHORESS, MANAGERESS.

A CHAT WITH MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY.

"Click, click, click," went a typewriter, as though racing against time, as a representative of this paper stood on the stage at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, outside Mrs. Kimberley's office, and it was with no small feeling of trepidation that he ventured to claim half an hour of the valuable time of such a busy lady as Mrs. Kimberley, who, as an authoress, before she has completed one play has managers clamouring for more; assists in the management of their pretty theatre at Wolverhampton, and of the various touring companies Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley have "on the road"; and at times plays on tour in one or other of her many successes.

"If my memory does not fail me, Mrs. Kimberley," said our representative, "I think you had some theatrical experience prior to essaying to write drama?"

"Yes, but my father was very antagonistic towards the stage and everything connected with it, as you will readily imagine when I tell you that the first time I ever saw the auditorium of a theatre was from the stage itself, whilst I am the only member of our family who has ever been connected with the theatrical profession. In the first instance I started as a singer, and made my début at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, in the pantomime, 'Aladdin,' Miss Ada Reeve being principal boy, where I had a small part and understudied another. Then a tour with 'Madcap Mavis,' followed by another season of pantomime at the Comedy Theatre, Manchester. After this I married, which was in more than one way the turning point in my

MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY.

career, for it finished any ambition I may have had of becoming a musical comedy actress of note."

"Why?" queried the interviewer.

"Because I then took up serious dramatic work, and that absolutely spoils the voice for singing. But my hopes in that direction, I think, will be realised in my daughter, Ruby, who, although only fourteen years old, gives promise of being a very fine singer, and is being carefully trained."

"What was your first part in drama?"

"I daresay you will be surprised, but it was Drunken Meg in 'Two Little Drummer Boys'; she, as you know, and the name implies, was a wretched old hag, and, mind you, I was only twenty-one at the time."

"That was a case of sinking oneself for art's sake," remarked the scribe.

"It is very nice of you to say so, but in all I have created some ten different characters, all more or less various studies."

"What induced you to start writing dramas?"

"Ambition," and, after a pause, "perhaps a little petty conceit."

"Whatever it was, you certainly have no cause to rue it."

"No," laughingly replied Mrs. Kimberley. "I have written in all fifteen plays, my first, 'A Sister's Sin,' being produced some twelve years ago. Whilst we were rehearsing this at Loughborough, a fire broke out at the theatre. It was about two o'clock, and I was going for a walk in the country, but hearing there was a big fire I returned, and on learning it was at the theatre I burst out crying. Don't smile, think of my youth and my sex. However, I happened to pass an old gipsy kind of woman, who stopped me and said, 'You will overcome this and many others besides.' Of course, I thought at the time I never should. She was a true prophet, because, although we lost everything, we duly produced the piece the following Monday at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, London. We also had another serious fire at the Theatre Royal, Barry, where we again lost everything."

"Do you adopt any particular method in writing your plays?"

"I don't, like I believe a good many authors do, write a scenario and then construct the dialogue. I write the first act, and then leave the characters to work out their own salvation, or otherwise. Honestly, I never know how my play is going to end until I reach the last act, and, incidentally I might mention, that owing to that fact a set of scenery for the third act of one of my pieces was thrown on our hands. Our scenic artist was worrying me, and I gave him certain details, then, when I came to this act, in writing the play, I, womanlike, changed my mind as regards the scene. One thing I would like to say is, that all my plays are rehearsed and produced entirely under my supervision."

"Where can you write best?" was the next question.

"Here," replied Mrs. Kimberley, emphatically. "In this very room, where I have the atmosphere of the theatre all around me. And I think this is borne out by the fact that the plays I have written since we have been in occupation of this theatre, at least so you gentlemen of the Press and others have been good enough to say, have by far excelled anything I have previously done."

"Can you suggest why, apart from any literary ability, your plays appeal so strongly to the public?"

"Yes; I think their success to a great extent is due to the fact that I am a woman, and know those things which appeal to my sex most, although, of course, I am never unmindful of those which appeal to the opposite sex."

"Now, what about the future?"

"Well, I am now engaged in writing 'The Boy Detective,' and also an Australian piece, which, although I have not yet even given it a title, is already booked at about twenty of the best dramatic theatres. I have three managers waiting for an answer about a new play for the spring, but I have so much on hand I cannot give them a reply. This coming autumn I shall have nine of my plays on tour. I have had twelve productions with Mr. Broadhead, and have two more booked. I must say I have received every kindness at his hands, and going to his theatre is almost like going home to me."

"What do you think of the future of drama?"

"It will live, as it always has lived, but it must be good drama—not trash; people are getting too highly educated to stand that."

"You haven't told me anything about your recreations?"

"I am afraid I have no time for anything else but business, but I do love swimming, and," as she wished me "Good night," "people do say I am a good cook."

MR. HENRY RENOUF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—May I ask the favour of a little space in your columns to make an appeal to his many friends on behalf of Mr. Henry Renouf? He has had to undergo an operation for lower tracheotomy, which was performed by Sir Sinclair Thomson. In a letter that eminent surgeon writes:—"I am forced to tell you quite frankly that, while I think we shall always be able to preserve your voice, yet I doubt if you will ever find it sufficiently satisfactory to use again on the stage." Only a loud whisper remains of what at one time was a fine resonant voice. I have personally known Harry Renouf for twenty-five years, and I am sure all who have ever been associated with him, whether as an actor or as a man, will agree with me that he was always one of the cheeriest and brightest fellows in the business. Even now, in spite of all his sufferings in the past, and the gloomy prospect that seems to be before him, he tries to be his cheery self always. The trouble with his voice began some eight years ago, and it will be twelve months on June 12 next since he last set foot on the stage. He speaks with sincere gratitude of the great kindness shown to him in the past by Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. John Hart, Mr. Wentworth Croke, Mr. G. P. Huntley, Mr. Fred Kitchen, and many others, whose names would fill half a column of your paper. When I mention that Harry began his career with the late Sir Henry Irving thirty-one years ago, that he supported many well-known actors and actresses, who, alas! are no longer with us, such as Mme. Modjeska, Henry Neville, William Farren, Florence Gerrard, Florence West, Charles Warner, Helen Barry, Kate Vaughan, Miss Marriot, Richard Edgar, while of living ones there are hundreds to whom he is well known, that he was leading man in four or five of the late Sir Augustus Harris's Drury Lane dramas on tour, and at his death his engagement was renewed by Mr. Arthur Collins for some three or four years; also that he has been leading man in such pieces as "The Prisoner of Zenda," "Under the Red Robe," "Brother Officers," "The Christian," "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Resurrection," "The Prodigal Son," "Marriages of Mayfair," etc., etc., I think you will agree with me that few actors can boast of a better record for genuine hard work. Playing such parts as above-mentioned, together with his frank, manly rendering of them, is it any wonder that Harry Renouf was held in high estimation by many provincial playgoers. May I hope that some of these will see this letter, and, for the sake of the remembrance of the enjoyment his performances gave to them, send along what their means will allow to add to those contributions that I sincerely hope this appeal of mine will bring from his friends in the theatrical profession. If you, Mr. Editor, would kindly consent to receive such subscriptions, it would be a graceful act, and will only add to the many kindnesses of a similar nature that you have generously bestowed in the past.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES ROCK.

Green Room Club, Leicester-square.
May 6, 1913.

MARYLEBONE DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

Mr. H. V. Esmond's pleasant comedy of sentiment, "One Summer's Day," was selected by the Marylebone Dramatic Society for their performance at the Cripplegate Institute on April 30. In all respects the choice was abundantly justified, a large audience witnessing a production which had many commendable features. A great deal of care had evidently been bestowed on the important problem of casting the play, and the acting of everybody concerned was generally most creditable. There was a slight tendency at the beginning to drag the action, but this soon disappeared, and gave place to brisker methods. Miss Jessie N. Smith as Bess had a very small part, and did not appreciate the importance of a distinct enunciation. Miss Rosamond E. Clark as Chiara made a picturesque Gipsy, acting with considerable effect in the second act. In the lighter passages, however, her performance was not so satisfactory. To Miss Ella Harrison, who appeared as the Urchin, must be accorded the distinction of achieving one of the outstanding successes of the evening. As a character study it was capital, and only marred by an inexplicable hesitation in the delivery of her last words in the play. As Irene, Miss Eva Parker had comparatively little to do, but contrived to keep well in the picture. Miss Madge R. Rae created a deal of laughter in the character of Mrs. Bendyshe, and it was a pity her opportunities were not more plentiful. To Miss Bessie Taylor was entrusted the important character of Maysie, and her performance was most acceptable, being very sympathetic and uniformly good throughout. The gentlemen in the cast are also to be congratulated. Mr. Robert Withers as Seth had the advantage of a capital make-up, and realised the unpleasant characteristics of the rôle with conspicuous success. Mr. Frank L. Johnson as Tom improved greatly as the comedy progressed, and was amusing in the last act. Mr. Phil Green as Marsden is also entitled to praise for a painstaking and well thought out performance. The rôle is by no means a grateful one to play, and it says much for his sincerity that he held the audience so completely. The all-important character of Rudyard was confided to Mr. F. W. Tucker, who completely justified his selection. His rendering was thoroughly interesting and human, the only blemish being a tendency to overdo the emotional scene at the end. Bendyshe was in the safe hands of Mr. Arthur E. Boyles, who gave a quaintly humorous performance. Mr. W. G. Davies as Hoddesden also acted well, particularly in the last act. Mr. Edgar S. Morris was responsible for the production, and is to be congratulated for the smoothness of the performance. Mr. Charles Alexander's orchestra added to the pleasure of the evening. The scenery and mounting were alike excellent, C. H. Fox, Ltd., supplying the costumes and wigs. It should be added that the large audience were duly appreciative, but not nearly to such an extent as the performance demanded.

In "Nash's Magazine" this month Miss Gertrude Elliott, in an interview with Miss Patricia Hoey, complains of the lack of independence on our stage. She says: "We are too conventional. That's the reason why love-making in the modern plays is often so unconvincing. The actor is afraid of his audience. He is afraid of shocking them or looking silly himself. So he just carries out the stage-manager's standard ideas of love-making; and experts in the audience smile." It would be possible for love-making to be two realistic. It might convince the Lord Chamberlain that the manager ought not to have his licence renewed.

SPORTING NOTES.

BY SANTOI.

Racing at Chester is hardly racing at all. Five out of six of the races are settled by the draw, particularly the sprint events. To be drawn No. 1 in a five-furlong race means everything, and really one must be an inveterate gambler to bet at all away from the course. The Epsom people are to be congratulated upon equalising matters somewhat by altering the angle of the starting gates for the five and six furlongs races, and Chester, old-fashioned though it is, might heighten the interest in its sport, and improve it altogether by giving serious attention to this point. At present the horses drawing high numbers have small chance of success, which means a cramped market, and thoroughly unsatisfactory sport. The Roodeye is a terrible place for a big field, and with nineteen runners for the Cup, naturally a lot of bumping occurred. The jockeys riding in the race well earned their fees. Our horse, Wilfrid, was the victim this time. He was struck into and sustained a badly cut tendon, which will cause him to forgo the Manchester Cup next week, and, in fact, keep him idle for many a day. The "going" was the worst ever remembered at Chester, even by John Osborne, who trained the winner, The Guller, and he was riding there sixty years back. Naturally, the time was slow, and altogether I think The Guller—a moderate plater—may be accounted lucky, for under normal conditions several of the horses that finished behind him would have beaten him. There was no excuse, however, for Lorenzo, who is quite in his element when the ground is soft. He is fairly certain to start "hot" for the Manchester Cup next week, but there he has a good horse in Scot's Saint to beat. It is a pity Wilfrid was put out of the Chester contest, as he might have provided a line between these colts in view of his second in the Liverpool Spring Cup.

Daly's appeared to lack stamina for the mile in his race at Chester, but I fancy it will be well to ignore this running. At all events, it will bring him down a pound or so in the handicap scale, and the time is not far off when we shall be able to bet on this colt. You have the gratifying knowledge that when his day arrives he will start as well as anything, for in all his races he has contrived to gain a good few lengths' lead of his opponents in the first furlong. Daly's and his stable companion, Lesto—who would have won the Lincolnshire if he had started—are two to follow. Both horses will win good races this season. Louvois has got over the strain he sustained in the Two Thousand, and he is now a firm favourite for the Derby, which is fitting enough in view of the Two Thousand result. Shogun's advance to the place of honour after the Two Thousand was inexplicable, but he is easy enough to back now, and, indeed, he looks like drifting out, which, after all, would not be remarkable after the Newmarket running. To my mind that disposed of his pretensions to the Derby. I have the greatest respect and admiration for Shogun, but do not believe it is possible to make a Derby winner of him in the short time which separates us from the race.

JUBILEE.

There is a great tip out for Major Symons for the Jubilee to-day. This colt we saw soundly trounced at the end of a mile at Lingfield the other day. In fact, he ran himself to a standstill, and, coming to the straight, dropped away beaten. That form was not good enough, though the market says otherwise, in what little betting we have had on the race. Still, whatever the stable and the "heads" think or say about Major Symons, I shall turn him down. He has deceived so often since he came from Ireland.

Maiden Erlegh has sound credentials, though the trial he won at Newmarket amounts to nothing, as the horse that finished second to him was the selling-plater Kerman, not good enough to try one of the top-weights in the Jubilee on any terms. Apart from that, however, you have some excellent public form, though the colt has been weighted up to it, and, indeed, on their St. Leger running, when only three parts of a length separated them, Hector has the best of it with 5lb. pull. On their Cambridgeshire running, Adam Bede again has the beating of the City and Suburban winner, Drinmore, and this spell of wet weather might be a dispensation of providence for the American-bred horse, who revels in the mud. They say he is not fit yet, but he has done as much work as anything lately, and I have a shrewd idea that even in the Duke of York Stakes on this course last October, and at Newmarket when he won the Cambridgeshire, we did not see the best of the horse. Sun Yat is quite well in for a fairly good class three-year-old, but I doubt his ability to stay the course at the pace they will go, and he is in two £1,000 races for animals of his own age at Manchester next week, either of which he can win. Mr. J. B. Joel's horses are just running into form now after a long series of reverses. Nothing stands out, but we must not desert the horse that did us such a good turn in the Cambridgeshire, and I shall declare for

ADAM BEDE,

with BACHELOR'S HOPE the chief danger.

SELECTIONS.

In the other races to-day COORA looks like winning the Three-Year-Old Plate; WATERWILLOW, or in his absence, MOUNT LOOTE, will about win the Rivers Handicap, and Bek's best, CHANCELLOR II. or CATILINE, the Sunningdale Welter.

There will be typical holiday racing at Hurst Park on Monday, and I suppose the usual holiday prices, which are always grossly unfair to backers. CLAP GATE ought to win the Surbiton Plate, and if he runs CRAGANOUR the Whitsuntide Plate. The Holiday Handicap looks at the mercy of MATELOT again, and CAFE DU MONDE is good for the Walton Handicap. EVENING GLOW should win the Monday Plate, and WATERWILLOW or PREVOYANT the Vyner Handicap. On Tuesday it is not at all certain that Shogun will beat MEETING HOUSE over six furlongs in the Yearling Plate. He ought not to do so on the Two Thousand running. AMAMI will about win the Durham Handicap, INCONSTANT GEORGE the Maiden Plate, and CALGARY the Surrey Two-Year-Old Plate. At Wolverhampton back ERMINE and BARRIER for their races on Monday and Tuesday respectively.

Miss Constance Collier left New York by the Cedric on Thursday.

Miss Marie Tempest will be at the Coronet Theatre next week with the entire Prince of Wales Theatre company in "The Handful."

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree's two volumes of essays and stories are in the hands of Messrs. Cassell and Co. for publication this year. The first, called "Thoughts and Afterthoughts," will be published in the present month; the second is entitled "Nothing Matters; and Other Stories," and will come out a little later in the season. "As a tribute to family unselfishness," says Sir Herbert, "I may mention that my brother Max urged me to publish these volumes. I had held back from this course at the beginning, fearing that I might eclipse his literary effulgence. But evidently he is prepared to take that risk, and it is not for me to deprive him of the laurels of heroic self-sacrifice." Sir Herbert has prefixed the following dedication to "Thoughts and Afterthoughts":—"To mine enemy I dedicate the faults of this book; to my friend I dedicate what merit it may possess: hoping thus to give pleasure to both!"

The cast of the adaptation from Molière which will precede "Ariadne in Naxos" at His Majesty's on the 27th inst. is as follows:—M. Jourdain, Herbert Tree; Mme. Jourdain, Rose Edouin; Cleonte, Stanley Howlett; Dorimene, Phyllis Neilson-Terry, Dorante, Philip Merivale; Nicole, Stella St. Audrie; a Music Master, A. E. George; a Dancing Master, Ben Field; a Fencing Master, Gerald Ames; a Master of Philosophy, Roy Byford; a Tailor, Henry Morrell; a Composer, Walter R. Creighton. The remaining performances will be given on the evenings of Wednesday, May 28; Friday, May 30; Saturday, May 31; Monday, June 2; Wednesday, June 4; Thursday, June 5; Saturday, June 7. The auditorium of His Majesty's will be reconstructed for the occasion, the pit being removed entirely. The play is in two acts, the opera making the third.

Sir George Alexander's next production at the St. James's will be a revival of "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," in which he and Mrs. Patrick Campbell will appear in their original characters. "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" by many is considered *the* play of the nineteenth century.

A notable gown at the Royal Academy private view on the 2nd inst. was worn by Lady Alexander. The skirt was of mustard-coloured net in two draped tiers, and the coat of shot mustard taffetas befrogged with gold, a scarlet velvet collar outlining the neck. With this Lady Alexander wore a gold-coloured hat with a huge paradise plume springing from the crown, and yellow shoes. Lady de Bathe wore a blue sleeveless coat, buttoned like a soutane to the feet, and showing long sleeves slashed with brocade in crude Bulgarian colours. Mrs. Alan Parsons (Miss Viola Tree) had a hat of yellow flowers and tulle, with a cloud of yellow gauze round her throat. Her sister, Miss Felicity Tree, Mr. Bourchier, Mr. Martin Harvey, and Mr. Cyril Maude were also present.

Mr. George Edwardes, by his doctor's orders, has gone to Germany to undergo a cure, and will not return to England before the middle of June. We trust the rest will do the popular manager much good. Before he went Mr. Edwardes made a new departure at the Gaiety by providing a printed synopsis of the plot of "The Girl on the Film," which late comers can obtain from the attendants.

The May meeting of the directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held on Tuesday last at Savoy House, under the presidency of Mr M. R. Morand, the chairman of the Association. Among those present were Messrs. Lionel Carson, Charles K. Cooper, Tom Craven, Arthur Curtis, Douglas Gordon, Hubert Harben, Herbert B. Hays, Ralph W. Hutton, Herbert Lyndon, Frank Ridley, Lionel Rignold, F. Percival Stevens, Hubert Willis, H. Saxe Wyndham, and Charles Cruikshanks, secretary. It was reported that the arrangements for the holding of the sixty-eighth annual festival, at the Savoy Hotel, on May 20, were progressing satisfactorily, and that Bishop Boyd Carpenter had promised to propose the toast of "The Drama and the Stage." Two candidates for membership of the Association were elected subject to compliance with regulations.

An acceptable souvenir of Mr. Forbes-Robertson's farewell season at Drury Lane was presented on Tuesday evening, when "The Merchant of Venice" was performed. The artistic souvenir-portfolio contained sixteen art portraits of Mr. Forbes-Robertson in his most famous parts and a picture of Miss Gertrude Elliott.

The managers of the leading West-end theatres met on Wednesday morning, under the presidency of Sir Herbert Tree, and, amongst other things, discussed the question of smoking in theatres. The meeting was private, but we understand that, although no decision was arrived at, the majority of those present were not in favour of permitting the practice.

The following is the cast of Mr. Martin Harvey's revival of "The Taming of the Shrew" at the Prince of Wales' Theatre this evening:—A Lord, Mr. Percy Walsh; Christopher Sly (a tinker), Mr. Charles Glenney; Hostess, Miss Florence Hunt; Page, Master Harold French; Baptista (a rich gentleman of Padua), Mr. Albert E. Raynor; Vincentio (an old gentleman of Pisa), Mr. Charles J. Cameron; Lucentio (son of Vincentio), Mr. Eugene Wellesley; Petruchio (a gentleman of Verona), Mr. Martin Harvey; Gremio and Hortensio (suitors to Bianca), Mr. Ernest Stidwell and Mr. Franklin Dyall; Tranio and Biondello (servants to Lucentio), Mr. Gordon McLeod and Mr. Denholm Muir; Grumio and Curtis (servants to Petruchio), Mr. Michael Sherbrooke and Miss Bessie Elder; A Pedant, Mr. Alfred Ibberson; A Tailor, Mr. David Bain; a Haberdasher, Mr. Sydney Coltson; a Widow, Miss Brenda Gibson; Bianca and Katharina (daughters of Baptista), Miss Annie Furrell and Miss N. de Silva. The stage decorations have been painted by Mr. George J. Dodson, and the dresses designed by Mr. George Kruger. The old music is under the direction of Miss Nellie Chaplain, and the whole production is designed by William Poel and Martin Harvey.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson will revive "Othello" at Drury Lane Theatre Royal on Monday, May 19, and repeat it at the matinée on Saturday, the 24th inst., there being no evening performance on that day. Mr. Forbes-Robertson has received a cable from Mr. William Faversham in America, saying that sudden business complications concerning his contracts for booking absolutely preclude his coming to play Iago. Mr. J. H. Barnes will, therefore, sustain the part. Mr. Forbes-Robertson himself appearing as Othello, and Miss Gertrude Elliott as Desdemona.

Mr. Cryil Maude will revive at the Playhouse on Thursday evening as a *lever de rideau* to the very successful "The Headmaster," "The Widow Woos," the comedy in one act by M. E. Francis and Sidney Valentine, which was first produced by Mr. Maude at the Haymarket in 1904. The cast will include Mr. Mark Paton, Mr. Charles Bibby, Miss Clare Greet, and Master W. Mollison. The 150th performance of "The Headmaster" will be given on the 30th inst.

Miss Cicely Hamilton's comedy, "Diana of Dobson's," so long associated with the fame of Miss Lena Ashwell, is to be the special attraction next week at Kelly's Theatre, where it is to be produced under the direction of the accomplished Mr. Harold V. Neilson. The entire Kingsway Theatre production of this play will be used on this occasion. The company includes Miss Katherine Harrington, Mr. Harold Anthruther, and Mr. Andrew Money.

Saturday evening, May 24, has been fixed by Mr. Frederick Harrison, in conjunction with Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Michael Faraday, for the production of "Within the Law" at the Haymarket Theatre. To Miss Edith Goodall and Mr. J. V. Bryant is entrusted the love interest in the play; and amongst others who are appearing are Mr. E. Lyall Swete, Mr. Frederick Ross, and Mr. Leon M. Lion. Sir Herbert Tree will himself produce the play, which is now being rehearsed under his direction.

Mr. Leonard Boyne continues to make progress towards recovery from his recent severe illness, and the management of the Apollo Theatre hope that he may be able shortly to resume the part of Timothy Doyle in "General John Regan."

Mr. Arthur B. Murray, who was taken suddenly ill at the Royalty on the 25th ult., is, we are pleased to hear, now fully recovered, and desires to thank the many friends who gave such sympathetic and opportune assistance at the time, and also those who wired or wrote him. Messrs. Vedrenne and Edie showed the greatest solicitude on his behalf, and also sent him a cheque considerably in excess of the salary due.

Sir Arthur Pinero, Miss Helen Mayo, and Mr. Norman Page acted as judges at the entrance test at the Academy of Dramatic Art for the summer term, which is now in progress. Some time ago we announced that the Council had acquired a site adjoining their present premises for the erection of a theatre for the students. Architect's plans for the building have been prepared, and it is the intention of the Council to commence building as soon as the plans have been passed by the authorities. A special committee, consisting of Sir Hubert von Herkomer, Sir Arthur Pinero, Sir George Alexander, Mr. G. Bernard Shaw, Mr. E. S. Willard, Mr. Dion Boucicault, and Mr. Granville Barker, has been formed to consider details in connection with the building.

The cast of "The Seven Sisters," by Ferencz Herczegh, to be produced by Mr. Norman Trevor at the Savoy Theatre on Wednesday, includes Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Enid Bell, Miss Heather Featherstone, Miss Peggy Fitzmaurice, Miss Laura Cowie, Miss Florence Pigott, Miss Olive Walter, Miss Mattie Block, Mr. Bertram Steer, Mr. Arthur Cleave, Mr. Edmund Maurice, Mr. Ernest Thesiger, Mr. Sam Sothern, and Mr. Norman Trevor. One of the scenes is a girls' bedchamber in a castle.

A year's lease of the new Ambassadors Theatre, near Cambridge-circus, has been granted by Mr. Herbert Jay to Mr. Durrant Swann, who will open at the end of this month with a play by Mr. Monckton Hoffe, called "Panthea," the title part being allotted to Miss Lillemore Halvorsen, a Norwegian actress.

The New York theatrical season is fast drawing to a close, and several productions are announcing their "last weeks." "Within the Law" and "Peg o' My Heart" are advertised to run through the summer; but "Years of Discretion," the comedy in which Mr. Lyn Harding has made such a success, will come off in the first week in June. Miss Laurette Taylor, who has certainly made the greatest individual success in New York this season, will probably be seen in London in "Peg o' My Heart" when the comedy is brought over here.

Mr. Frederic de Lara, now appearing in "The Yellow Jacket," announces two more recitals at the Steinway Hall—Friday afternoon, May 16, and Wednesday afternoon, June 18—when he will again be assisted by his clever wife. At the first recital the programme will include scenes from "Hamlet," selections from Edgar Allan Poe, Edwin Arnold, Whitcombe Riley, F. W. Bain, and a humorous playlet from the pen of Mr. de Lara, and Dr. H. H. Hulbert will deliver an address upon "The Science of Appreciation in Song and Speech."

"Hindle Wakes" makes its re-appearance in London next week at the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, where it will be played every evening during the week, with matinées on Monday and Wednesday. The company has been selected and rehearsed by Mr. Edwin T. Heys, who has been for the last six years Miss Horniman's manager at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester. The production is an exact replica of that seen at the Playhouse and the Court.

"Troilus and Cressida" will be given, under the direction of Mr. William Poel, at Stratford-on-Avon Memorial Theatre on Monday next, May 12, at 2.30 and 8 o'clock. The production will be the same as was seen at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, last December, and the cast will include Mr. Ion Swinley, Mr. Frank Musgrave, Mr. Anthony Warde, Mr. Rollo Balmain, who will play Ajax, and Mr. P. L. Eyre, Miss Edith Evans, Miss Enid Lorimer, and Miss Elspeth Keith.

Miss Lilian Hallows, who has concluded eight months' engagement with Messrs. Melville as Juliet at the Princes Theatre, and as Nancy in "Oliver Twist," and Zorzah in "The Open Door" at the Lyceum Theatre, has been re-engaged by Messrs. Paumier and Howard for Princess Astra in "The Midnight Wedding" for their forthcoming tour. Miss Hallows has played this part on tour in England, and also in South Africa, under Mr. Alfred Paumier's management.

A new version of "Oliver Twist," adapted from Dickens' novel by Mr. Henry Doughty, will be produced on Monday at the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, Mr. Doughty appearing as Fagin and Miss Vera Leslie as Nancy.

An entirely new version of "Adrienne Lecouvreur," freely adapted from the French of Scribe and Legouvé, by Mr. Cecil Howard-Turner, will be produced at Cosmopolis, on June 8 and 9, by Miss Ella Erskine, when this fine emotional actress will be seen in the title-part made so famous by Madame Sarah Bernhardt.

Mr. Sam Livesey, after his present engagement concludes at the Lyceum Theatre, will commence booking his evergreen play, "The Village Blacksmith," which, after eight years of continuous tour, has been having a "well-earned rest." Mr. Livesey has secured the sole rights of a new play, by Mr. Charles Garvice, the author of so many successful novels. Mr. Garvice's play should certainly prove a winner for Mr. Livesey and those managers fortunate enough to book it.

We are asked to announce that the partnership existing between Miss Estelle Stead and Mr. Farmer Skein will terminate on the 24th inst.

Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Michael Faraday have engaged Mr. Charles Garry to play one of the leading character parts in their forthcoming production of "Within the Law" at the Haymarket Theatre. An interesting fact attached to this engagement is that Mr. Garry started his career at the Haymarket Theatre, then under Sir Herbert's management, remaining with him two years. And in the "Trilby" boom he played Sir Herbert's great part of Svengali in the tours of the play sent from the Haymarket Theatre. Among Mr. Garry's later work he has supported Mrs. Patrick Campbell as her leading man, and last season filled the same capacity with Miss Olga Nethersole.

Mr. Arthur Wimperis is writing a new revue, which will be produced at the Theatrical Garden Party on June 3 in the Royal Hospital Gardens, Chelsea. The author describes it as "several regrettable acts and painful scenes," entitled "Eightpence Per Smile," or "Pay Over There." Various popular rag-time melodies, with entirely new words, will be introduced, and the revue will be performed by members of "The Girl in the Taxi" company from the Lyric.

At the same happy gathering the Shaftesbury Theatre Company will produce a revue which they will call "Hullo, Cinderella." A silver challenge cup will be competed for by teams from various theatres in the shooting gallery, which Messrs. Gerald Du Maurier and Guy Standing will manage. Miss Renee Mayer is to preside at "Puck's Stall"; and an artistic show is the "Temple of Flora," where the goddess will be served by the three Graces, Misses Gladys Cooper, Margery Maude, and Rosalie Toller. In "The Wildest and Worst Theatrical Menagerie" the animals will be introduced and controlled by Messrs. Ben Webster, Frank Arlton, William Devereux, Clarence Derwent, W. G. Fay, Fredk. James, John Mortimer, and Douglas Munro. A specimen of that little-known biped, the "Cue-Cus," has been procured, and will perform during the afternoon his well-known tricks of finding a lost collar stud, losing a train, &c. There will also be on view a Warner bat, an interesting Anglo-Australian specimen—a delightful specimen of the "Matinée Flapper."

A number of personal friends of Mr. George Dornan, manager of Messrs. David Allen and Sons, have expressed their desire of welcoming him home from the voyage to South Africa which he is taking for the benefit of his health, and the committee which has been formed with that object includes already Messrs. Ernest R. Abbott, Dan Barnard, S. Barnard, Fred Baugh, Thos. R. Beaufort, J. A. Campbell, Wentworth Croke, George Dance, Charles Darrell, Frank Eden, Mathew Glenville, Travis Green, Arthur Hinton, Walter Howard, Fred. S. Jennings, F. G. Kimberley, Forbes Knowles, Charles Locke, Newman Maurice, Fred Moule, Fred Melville, Walter Melville, J. Edward Whitty, Fred Osmond, G. M. Polini, T. Morton Powell, George Stone, G. Carlton Wallace, and Thomas Wright. They will hold a meeting at the Elephant and Castle Theatre at 3 o'clock on Thursday, when all of Mr. Dornan's friends who wish to join the committee will be welcome.

Mr. Matthew Montgomery has decided to follow this week's successful revival of "The Shaughraun" at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, with a production of "The Grip of Iron," a piece which has for years enjoyed popularity with the public. The rôle of Jagon is to be in the hands of Mr. Scott Leighton, who has become a strong favourite with the Rotunda Theatre audiences. Mr. George E. Butler will appear as Jagon's accomplice, Lorenz De Ribas; and Mr. Clifford Marle will play the hero, Paul Blanchard. Miss Dulcie Lawrence will hold the important part of Cora, Jagon's daughter, and Mr. Frank Caffrey will develop the humours of Loustalot, a professional gaol bird. "The Grip of Iron" will be given in nine scenes.

Mr. Arthur C. Goff on Saturday last terminated his engagement with Mr. G. R. Ballanger's "Young Buffalo" company, in which he has played the part of Bluffington over 500 times. Mr. Goff has been engaged by Mr. Herbert Fuller to create the part of Norman Brassey in "Motherless," to be produced on Monday at the Grand, Lancaster.

Mr. Laurence Meade has been re-engaged by Mr. and Mrs. Vyvian Thomas to play Cranley Fordyce in their forthcoming production of "Tantrums."

The Quinlan Opera Company go to Dublin, on Monday, for one week, sailing from Liverpool on the Nestor (Blue Funnel Line), on the 19th for Cape Town. The company is 160 strong, and will be away for 12 months.

Mr. Bernard Merefield, who created the part of Vincent Bland, the composer, in Sir Arthur Pinero's play, "The Mind-the-Paint Girl," has just returned from the States, where he has been playing the same rôle with Miss Billie Burke, being the only member of the London cast engaged by Mr. Frohman to do so. The play was a great success on the other side, eighteen weeks in New York being followed by fourteen weeks in the other principal cities, including one in Washington, where President Woodrow Wilson—then newly inaugurated—and his wamily, witnessed the performance, it being his first public appearance in an unofficial capacity.

Between the London and New York seasons Mr. Merefield played the part of Al'ahdin, in "The Poetasters of Ispahan," the clever Persian one-act play preceding "Ann" at the Criterion. A special performance of this play was given in New York, Mr. Maurice Elvey (the producer) repeating his delightful impersonation of Hallaj, the public letter writer; but Mr. Merefield, being precluded from playing for anyone but Mr. Frohman, his part was undertaken by Mr. Walter Creighton.

Our Paris correspondent writes:—"M. Poirier, the manager of the Comédie des Champs Elysées, opened a few weeks ago, tried an innovation which did not prove successful. As no doubt you know, the Paris playgoer is heavily taxed. At one time the theatres used to refund the State the poor tax of about 10 per cent. To-day it comes out of the pocket of the poor playgoer, who, when he books a seat at a Boulevard theatre, pays the trifle of: Price of stall, 12 francs; charge for booking, 1 franc; poor tax, 1 franc 50 centimes; programme, 50 centimes; cloakroom, 50 centimes; the harpy who conducts you to your stall, 50 centimes; in all, 16 francs.

"When M. Poirier inaugurated his house he made a startling announcement to the public: 'No more charge for booking, for programmes, for cloakroom, no tips to the lady who conducts you to your seat. In return however, for these favours I raise my price from 12 francs to 15 francs!' So spoke M. Poirier, but the public grumbled, and did not at all relish this kindness. In fact they grumbled so much that M. Poirier has informed his patrons that he has reduced his price to 12 francs, adding that the above-mentioned charges will have to be borne once more by the 'man in the stalls.'"

REVIVAL OF "STRIFE."

On Saturday, May 3, at the Comedy Theatre, the Play by John Galsworthy, entitled

"STRIFE."

John Anthony .....Mr. Norman McKinnel
Edgar Anthony .....Mr. Athol Stewart
Frederic H. Wilder .....Mr. Kenneth Douglas
William Scantlebury ....Mr. Luigi Lablache
Oliver Wanklin .....Mr. Bassett Roe
Henry Tench .....Mr. O. B. Clarence
Francis Underwood .....Mr. Reyner Barton
Simon Harness .....Mr. Charles Kenyon
David Roberts .....Mr. J. Fisher White
James Green .....Mr. Edgar B. Payne
John Bulgin .....Mr. Cecil du Gue
Henry Thomas .....Mr. F. Cremlin
George Rous .....Mr. Owen Roughwood
Henry Rous .....Mr. Akerman May
Lewis .....Mr. Harold Bradley
Jago .....Mr. Danell Greene
Evans .....Mr. Percy Goodyer
A Blacksmith .....Mr. James Lemrose
Davies .....Mr. C. McLaughlin
A Red-haired Youth .....Mr. F. Charlton
Brown .....Mr. Jack Denton
Frost .....Mr. Arthur Grenville
Llewellyn .....Mr. John Kelt
Enid Underwood .....Miss Renée Kelly
Annie Roberts .....Miss Dora Barton
Madge Thomas .....Miss Esme Beringer
Mrs. Rous .....Miss Marie Ault
Mrs. Bulgin .....Miss Dorothy Edwards
Mrs. Yeo .....Miss Ella Tarrant
Jan .....Mr. Walter Pritchard

The notable play written by Mr. John Galsworthy, entitled "Strife," which was produced originally at the Duke of York's Theatre in March, 1909, was revived at the Comedy Theatre on Saturday night by Messrs. Kenneth Douglas and Carl F. Leyel. It is Mr. Galsworthy's way to lay before his public, both in his books and in his plays, some great unanswerable problem which he does not attempt to solve, but contents himself with presenting truthfully and dramatically, showing the urgent necessity for reform, and leaving the slow solution to tardy time and the minds of men. In "Strife," Mr. Galsworthy deals with the great question of Capital versus Labour—John Anthony, chairman of the Trenartha Tin Plate Works versus David Roberts, Socialistic dreamer, leader of the strike that is in progress. The strikers have proved unexpectedly obdurate; and a meeting of directors is called to discuss the situation. For the most part they are in favour of meeting the men's demands; but the chairman is adamant. "No compromise" is his decree, "give way to the men once and there'll be no end to it." "There is only one way of treating 'men'—with the iron hand." "It has been said that capital and labour have the same interests. Cant! Their interests are as wide asunder as the poles. . . . . Masters are masters and men are men! Yield one demand and they will make it six. . . . I have been accused of being a domineering tyrant thinking only of my pride—I am thinking of the future of this country, threatened with the black waters of confusion, threatened with mob government. . . ." The strikers, weakened by slow starvation, are as ready to come to terms as the directors, who are anxious about their dividends; but in their turn they are under the domination of the "rank agitator," David Roberts, who is as relentless in his demands as John Anthony is in his refusal. Influence is brought to bear on both sides. Enid, his much-loved daughter, pleads earnestly with John Anthony, to whom the directors appeal, and whom they threaten, but in vain. Roberts is faced with the patient resignation of a dying wife; but though his heart is broken, his will remains firm. In the end, the followers of both men break away from their leaders, and "rat" unconscionably. There is a magnficent "strike" scene, and a wonderfully intense speech by Roberts, who urges the malcontents to continue their "fight o' the country's body and blood against a blood-sucker—the fight o' those that spend theirselves with every blow they strike and every breath they draw, against a thing that fattens on them and grows and grows by the law of a merciful Nature." He has swayed his hearers back to their original resolution, when, at the crucial moment, there comes news that his wife is dying, and he rushes away to her deathbed. Back swings the crowd to compromise. John Anthony stares at failure also; he is "voted down," and resigns his position on the board. The two men of iron, John Anthony and David Roberts, failures both, face one another grimly. "So they've done us both down, Mr. Anthony," says the fanatical Roberts, and he bursts into half-mad laughter. The situation is summed up by the secretary to a trade union official. "D'you know," says the former, "these terms, they're the very same we drew up, you and I, and put to both sides before the fight began. All this—and—what for?" A typical Galsworthy ending. "What for?"

It is almost impossible to imagine any other actor as the old domineering autocrat, John Anthony, the man of cast iron will and adamantine principles, than Mr. Norman McKinnel. His performance five years ago cut deep into the memory; and his impersonation on Saturday surpassed the expectation of ripened remembrance. John Anthony has less to say in words than any other character; neverthless, he is the one towering personality of the play, dwarfing all the others, except his adversary, to insignificance. During the first part he acts with his eyes alone, but what eyes! One shivers with apprehension, as he turns their fierce burning light from one face to another. It is a wonderfully perfect piece of acting, unmarred by one false touch. In marked contrast to Mr. McKinnel's display of enormous reserved strength is the fiery, impassioned impersonation of Mr. J. Fisher White as David Roberts, the advanced Socialistic leader, who sacrifices everything—money, home, wife—to further, as he believes, the betterment of the conditions of his class. It is extraordinarily effective the way in which Mr. Fisher White makes the soul of the martyr shine through the starved body of the workman. As of Mr. Norman McKinnel, we say of Mr. Fisher White, it is difficult to imagine a better man in the part. Mr. Kenneth Douglas has the hard task of succeeding Mr. Dennis Eadie as Frederic Wilder, the "man of straw"; and though playing it on different lines, Mr. Douglas is equally successful. He makes Wilder a "jumpier," more querulous man than we remembered—equally convincing, if less sympathetic. Mr. Luigi Lablache is, fortunately, once more available for the part of William Scantlebury, the director whom Roberts likens to "a dumb ox that can only be roused when its food is threatened." A most excellent performance is given by Mr. O. B. Clarence as the meek and timorous Henry Tench, secretary to the company; and a well-deserved success is scored by Mr. Arthur Grenville as Frost, John Anthony's much-perturbed valet. Mr. Grenville won a special round of applause on Saturday for his very clever little character study. Miss Renée Kelly is sweet and sympathetic as Enid Underwood; and Miss Esme Beringer a handsome, passionate Madge. Miss Dora Barton makes a very pathetic figure as Annie, Roberts' dying wife; and Miss Marie Ault is exceedingly good as a garrulous old mother. Mr. Charles Kenyon gives a sound, capable performance as the Trade Unionist. Mr. Owen Roughwood is excellent as the blackleg, George Rous; and Mr. F. Cremlin is satisfactory as Henry Thomas, the old Welshman. Mr. Athol Stewart as John Anthony's son manages to show his shame at his own irresolution very cleverly; Mr. Bassett Roe is quietly effective as Oliver Wanklin, another director; and Mr. Reyner Barton gives a very creditable performance as Mr. Anthony's son-in-law. The workmen on strike are played by Mr. Edgar B. Payne, Mr. Cecil Du Gue, Mr. Akerman May, Mr. Harold Bradley, Mr. Danell Greene, Mr. Percy Goodyer, Mr. James Lemrose, Mr. C. McLaughlin, Mr. F. Charlton, Mr. Jack Denton, and Mr. John Kelt, with an excellent sense of unity. Miss Dorothy Edwards and Miss Ella Tarrant are good as workmen's wives; and Mr. Walter Pritchard as Jan, the little boy with the whistle, is entirely natural. The play was received with great enthusiasm, and in response to calls for the author, Mr. Kenneth Douglas announced that Mr. Galsworthy was not in the house.

On Monday "Strife" was preceded by a new One-act Piece, by Dion Clayton Calthrop, entitled

"TRAPPED."

The Man .....Mr. Arthur Grenville
The Woman .....Miss Dora Barton

"Trapped," if rather obvious, is something new in the way of curtain-raisers. A burglar "cracks a crib" and discovers what appears to him to be the lady of the house pointing a revolver at him. She commands him to sit down, and keep quiet or "her husband may be aroused." Professing ignorance of the methods of his craft, she prompts him to unveil his secrets. Flattery is his undoing. With the pride of a master-workman he explains to her how he opens safes, conceals the spoils, and covers up his retreat. The lady is greatly interested, and persuades him to give a demonstration. Pointing to a safe, she wagers him a five-pound note that he will not open it. The burglar, fancying himself to be "on a good thing," produces an electric drill and soon has the safe open. Lost in admiration, the lady asks to try on his waistcoat filled with the contents of the safe, and having ascertained that a motor-car is waiting at the end of the lane, she suddenly levels her weapon at the burglar's head, and, telling him that she is a burglar herself, and has been puzzling her brain for hours in the endeavour to discover how to open the safe, she slams the shutters, rings the burglar alarm, and departs, leaving the cracksman "trapped." Although everyone knows that she is not the lady of the house, the little piece is so well written that there is no time to wonder how such an expert cracksman could be such a fool as to fall into the trap. Mr. Arthur Grenville and Miss Dora Barton gave excellent representations of the Man and the Woman, and the piece was received with much applause.

FORBES-ROBERTSON'S FAREWELL.

On Monday, May 5, Shakespeare's Comedy,

"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Duke of Venice .....Mr. Ian Robertson
Prince of Morocco .....Mr. Grendon Bentley
Shylock .....Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson
Antonio .....Mr. Percy Rhodes
Bassanio .....Mr. Basil Gill
Lorenzo .....Mr. Charles Graham
Gratiano .....Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty
Salanio .....Mr. Walter Ringham
Salarino .....Mr. George Hayes
Tubal .....Mr. Montague Rutherfurd
Launcelot Gobbo .....Mr. H. Athol Forde
Old Gobbo .....Mr. S. T. Pearce
Leonardo .....Mr. E. A. Ross
Balthazar .....Mr. Robert Atkins
Gaoler .....Mr. Eric Adeney
Clerk of the Court .....Mr. Richard Andean
Portia .....Miss Gertrude Elliott
Nerissa .....Miss Audrey Ford
Jessica .....Miss Joan Tuckett

The remarkable scenes of enthusiasm which have marked the progress of Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson's farewell season at Drury Lane reached a climax on Monday night, when "The Merchant of Venice" was presented by him for the first time in London. It was at Drury Lane that Henry Irving's Shylock was last seen by Londoners, and it is a fitting coincidence that the same theatre should witness the farewell of this other great actor. There are many points of similarity between the Shylock of Henry Irving and Forbes-Robertson, though the latter does not emphasise the Jewishness of the character as did his old chief. There is enormous elevation in Mr. Forbes-Robertson's impersonation; his final exit is the most dignified we remember, and he makes no attempt to idealise the old moneylender. His Shylock is a subtle, crafty man, deeply resentful of the contempt of the Gentile, embittered by ages of oppression, which have fostered in him the love of revenge. In the scene with Tubal, Mr. Forbes-Robertson rose to magnificent heights, and his rendering of the speech beginning "Hath not a Jew eyes?" has probably never been surpassed.

Miss Gertrude Elliott exercised a good deal of skill as Portia, and played the part with a certain amount of brilliance, but, in the Trial scene, she did not make us forget any of her predecessors, the "Quality of mercy" speech being given as a clever piece of declamatory eloquence rather than an appeal to the emotions. Miss Elliott was particularly good in the Casket scene, in which she looked lovely in a beautiful golden frock. Mr. Ian Robertson's Duke of Venice was an admirable performance; and Mr. Basil Gill's Bassanio was a thoroughly sound, convincing piece of work. As Nerissa, Miss Audrey Ford was excellent, and showed all the advantages of experience and ability; Mr. Percy Rhodes was satisfactory as Antonio, and Mr. Grendon Bentley made a dignified, yet impassioned Prince of Morocco, and got a round of applause at his exit. As Launcelot Gobbo Mr. H. Athol Forde was good, and the same may be said of the old Gobbo of Mr. S. T. Pearce. Mr. Charles Graham made an earnest and careful Lorenzo; and Miss Joan Tuckett looked charming as Jessica, and played with a pretty touch of maidenly modesty. Her elocution was quite exceptionally good and her voice sweet and melodious. Mr. Montague Rutherfurd, as Tubal, was satisfactory; and Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty was delightfully buoyant as Gratiano, his crisp, vivacious delivery being most piquant. As Salanio and Salarino, Mr. Walter Ringham and Mr. George Hayes were entirely adequate; Mr. Richard Andean made a sonorous Clerk of the Court; Mr. E. A. Ross was an excellent Leonardo; Mr. Robert Atkins did all that was necessary as Balthazar; and Mr. Eric Adeney made a convincing-looking gaoler.

At the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, last week, Mr. Gordon E. Craig, recently manager of the Grand, was presented with a handsome diamond pin, on the occasion of his leaving Birmingham to take over the management of the Finsbury Park Empire. The presentation was made, on behalf of the staff, by Mr. James E. Coward, who, after being assistant-manager for a number of years, has succeeded Mr. Craig as manager. Several eulogistic speeches were made.

On May 17, "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford" will reach its 150th performance at the Queen's Theatre. Since the special matinée, which was given last Easter Monday, Mr. Arthur Collins has received letters from all parts of England asking him to hold another special matinée, and in response to these numerous requests one will be given on Monday at the Queen's.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"L'ENTRAINEUSE."

Play, in Four Acts, by Charles Esquier, Produced at Antoine's, on May 1.

Françoise Césaire .....Mlle. Juliette Margel
Tante Claire .....Mlle. Deho
Germaine .....Mlle. Dermoz
Mme. Fourtem .....Mlle. Greyval
Suzanne .....Mlle. Rose Modave
Le Goulet .....M. Candé
Jean Césaire .....M. Francen
Rabastens .....M. Claeis
Vittelbach .....M. Lluis
Lannion .....M. Saillard
Beltramus .....M. Capentier

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, May 1.—The story of "L'Entraineuse" is taken from the novel by M. Charles Esquier, who also dramatised it. Jean Césaire is a talented young musician, but, poor and unknown, he is compelled to gain a slender living by giving lessons. He has written an opera, "L'Ile fantôme," and his hopes are centred on the production of that work. When the story opens there is great excitement in the Césaire household, for Lannion, a powerful theatrical manager, has come to hear the opera. He tells the delighted Jean that he is rather pleased with it, but that it will have to undergo many modifications before he can put it into rehearsal. Jean refuses to make any changes, and when the irate manager has left the room Jean's friends blame the latter for his uncompromising attitude. But Françoise, Jean's wife, approves all he has done. She has faith in him, and she will see him triumphantly through the ordeal. For all that Jean soon is in desperate straits. He owes a few hundred pounds to Vittelbach, a rich amateur, who offers to "purchase" the opera, which he then intends to bring out under his own name, and Jean is on the point of accepting that scandalous offer when Françoise snatches the document out of her husband's hands and tears it to pieces. Françoise has only one desire, that of seeing her husband's talent recognised, and she is prepared to sacrifice everything to attain that aim. An opportunity soon arises for her to do so. Le Goulet, a millionaire Deputy, has conceived the plan of starting a Conservatoire for work-girls, and he comes to discuss the subject with Jean. He falls in love with Françoise, who indignantly repels his advances; but when he promises Françoise to mount her husband's opera she sacrifices her honour and gives herself to him. In the third act Jean has become a great man. Le Goulet has kept his word, "L'Ile fantôme" has been produced, and Jean is the man of the day. Ignoring the price Françoise paid for his success Jean believes that he owes everything to his talent, and his vanity and conceit have become insufferable. He has, moreover, become the lover of Germaine Leclos, a singer, a beautiful but depraved woman, who has a bad influence on him. When Françoise hears of this liaison she is so upset that she implores her husband to break it off, and the latter, moved by her supplications, promises to do so. Germaine, however, to avenge herself on Françoise, tells Jean that his wife is Le Goulet's mistress. In a violent scene with his wife Jean informs her that he intends to divorce her. Françoise could with one word have explained her conduct, but sooner than hurt her husband's pride she heroically remains silent. The next day Jean learns the truth from Le Goulet, and he is now quite willing to "forgive" her, but his forgiveness comes too late. Françoise has had a heart attack, and she dies in the arms of her husband, surrounded by his friends, who have come to congratulate him on having received the Cross of the Legion of Honour. She has been his "trainer" ("L'Entraineuse") who has paved the way for him, yet who could not participate in his success. The work met with a very fine interpretation. Mlle. Margel was magnificent in the rôle of Françoise, and the other parts were also very well held.

As already reported in these columns, M. Max Dearly, the popular actor, threw up his rôle in "L'Habit vert" at the Variétés to appear at Olympia, whereupon Mr. Samuel, the manager of the Variétés, at once sued M. Dearly for damages. Hoping to put matters right without any more trouble, M. Dearly went the other night to that house and asked the manager whether he could not resume the part of Parmeline he created. "Your place is taken, and we have no rôle for you at present!" was the reply. M. Dearly thereupon shook hands all round, and went back to Olympia.

PARIS, Thursday, May 8.—The excitement in theatrical circles this week has been the appearance of Mlle. Villany in one of our police courts to answer the charge of having danced before a large audience "mit nothings on," as they say in the Fatherland. The little court was filled with journalists and members of the "profession," and we all strained our necks to catch a glimpse of the fair defendant, who is small of stature and was becomingly dressed in a simple but well-made tailor costume. M. Granié, the public prosecutor, in a humorous speech, told us that Mlle. Adorée Villany asked to be tried, not by M. Hugot, the magistrate, but by M. Rodin, the well-known sculptor, and the sworn friend of all good-looking ladies. "I have," the young lady had said, "faith in the artistic taste of M. Rodin, who is much more competent to give a fair judgment in a matter of art!" This, certainly, was flattering to the great sculptor, but unkind to the gentleman on the bench, who rubbed his nose once or twice in astonishment when Mlle. Villany developed her theories on art, theories that are rather startling. She explained to us that in dancing the rhythm of the soul communicates itself to the body, which thus becomes an instrument of expression quite as potent as the face. The full value of the dance, she argued, is lost if the body is concealed. According to her, no artist can properly express "grief" if she has any clothes on. Alas! we live in a prosaic age, when the post of Public Prosecutor is entrusted, not to a sculptor, but to a man of the law. And so it happened that the fair artiste had to answer the charge of showing herself in public "tout à fait déshabillée." Mlle Villany, however, protested to the word "public." It was a private affair, she said, for the audience was limited by invitation. "No, my dear," replied the prosecutor, "the thing was 'public,' and no mistake. You hired the hall of the Comédie-Royale to give a performance exclusively reserved for artists. This may have been your intention, but it seems that hundreds of people who could not claim to be 'artists,' and who did not feel at all interested in choregraphic art, received prospectuses mentioning your ultra-modern dance; and for the modest sum of five francs the Police Commissary bought a ticket and witnessed the performance!" The Police Commissary then came forward and stated what he saw, or rather, he referred to the clothes he did not see. There were no witnesses for the defence, but the fair defendant produced two letters, one by a painter, the other by a young sculptor, who, in the name of Art, protested against the lady being molested. Unfortunately, there was a post-scriptum in one which rather spoiled the effect. "It is a pity," said the writer, "that the lady is rather thin!" At this Mlle. Villany burst out laughing, and called out: "He is a painter, and although he styles himself an artist, he knows nothing about Art!" Concluding his humorous speech, the Public Prosecutor said: "Mlle. Villany wanted that great sculptor, M. Rodin, to preside over this tribunal. The law unfortunately does not allow this. You, M. le Président, must, therefore, try her as a magistrate, but as indulgently as if you were 'a competent artist'!" A fine of 200 francs (£8) was imposed, and the lady left the court with no visible stain on her unblemished character.

At the Opéra-Comique the rehearsals of Gustave Charpentier's new opera, "Julien," are in full swing, and M. Jusseaume, the well-known scene-painter, is putting the finishing touches to the beautiful scenery ordered by M. Carré. The work is in two parts and seven tableaux. When the curtain rises we are in the Villa Medicis in Rome, the villa owned by the French Government, where the pupils who won golden medals at the Conservatoire and the Fine Arts Academy are housed and fed for a period of three years to complete their studies. Then follow the visions of the "poètes élus," and of the "poètes maudits," and the first part winds up with "Le Temple de la Beauté." The first tableau of the second part is laid in Hungary, where, by the way, M. Charpentier resided for many years. Next comes the scene representing "A Corner of Brittany," at the sea shore, with its menhirs and calvaries; and the work winds up with a view of Montmartre, with its Moulin-Rouge and tutti quanti.

Everybody knows Edmond Rostand, the famous poet, the author of "Cyrano" and other great works. Maurice Rostand, the son, is less known. But the said Maurice is ambitious, and, having completed a play called "Septentrion, he was anxious to have it produced at Mme. Sarah-Bernhardt's theatre. Sarah said she would be happy to mount it, but our national Sarah often changes her mind, and after a while declared that she preferred not to produce it. Whereupon the author decided to do so himself. In the coming month, therefore, "Septentrion" will see the footlights in a house specially hired by the dramatic society of which M. Maurice Rostand is the president. From all I hear, "Septentrion" is a psychological study of a youth who has many friends. One day all these friends disappear, whereupon Septentrion "dances," not for joy, but for grief, and does not turn a hair when he hears that his best friend has committed suicide. M. Maurice will impersonate his hero.

Mlle. Mignon Nevada made her first bow before a Paris audience at the Théâtre des Champs Elysées, where she appeared in "Il Barbiere." I am happy to state that this talented young prima-donna met with a splendid reception. Parisians as a rule are not demonstrative, but on every side I heard the cries of "Délicieuse! Ravissante!" which is the highest praise a Paris audience can bestow on an artist. Mlle. Nevada can well be proud of the success she achieved.

NEW PLAYS IN PARIS.

"L'Exilée," play, four acts, by Kistemaeckers; Comédie des Champs-Elysées, April 4.

"Le Chevalier au Masque," play, five acts and six tableaux, by Armont and Manoussi; Antoine, April 9.

"Les deux Versants" ("The Great Divide"), by W. V. Moody, translated by M. and L. Cazamian; Arts, April 10.

"Le Rue du Sentier," comedy, four acts, by P. Decourcelle and Andre Maurel; Odéon, April 16.

"Panurge," comic opera, three acts, by Georges Spitzmuller and Maurice Boukay, music by Massenet; Gaité-Lyrique, April 25.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 5, was Produced the Drama, entitled

"WHAT A MAN MADE HER."

The energetic Mr. Frederic Baugh is again providing the dramatic fare at this popular southern Temple of Thespis, and on Monday put on Charles Darrell's famous melodrama, with the remarkable story of a life's lesson to every woman. Many favourite Brixton players were seen to advantage, notably Mr. Walter Gay (who essays the part this time of villain instead of his usual rôle of hero) as Rupert Wogan Danescombe. His acting was marked with sincerity and power. Another lady favoured by Brixton playgoers, Miss Olive Warne, did splendid dramatic work as his co-villainess, Lady Thora Danescomb. Miss Florence Hale-Daviss was delightfully funny as Deborah Gunnerstein, and her helpmate in humour-making was Mr. Ernest Plumpton, who provided any amount of genuine laughter. Mr. Edwin Bennett was a manly and clever representative of the hero, Mark Daren. Mr. Alexander Bradley, as usual, made the most of the part of Sir Ernest Cavendish. Miss Marion Fawcett was dignified as the Dowager Countess of Saxon; and Miss Effie Bartlett was sweetly effective as the persecuted heroine.

THE PEDGRIFT TESTIMONIAL.

The amounts forwarded to us for the testimonial to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, who recently retired from the position of business-manager of "The Era," have reached a total of about £72.

Since the closing of the list last week we have received the following subscriptions:—

Alfred Butt, Esq.	£2	2	0
Mrs. E. S. Willard	2	0	0
Brandon Thomas, Esq.	1	1	0
Moss' Empires, Ltd.	1	1	0
J. R. Huddlestone, Esq.	1	1	0

The annual Bensonian Old Boys' dinner will be held at Oddenino's Restaurant on Sunday, June 8. Mr. O. B. Clarence will take the chair.

The annual dinner of the Incorporated Stage Society will take place at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday evening, May 18, when the chair will be taken by Mme. Anna Pavlova. The toast of the evening will be the National Theatre.

Miss Irene Henteschel has been engaged by Mr. Henry Adnes to play Miss May Blaney's part in "The Concert," recently produced at the Duke of York's Theatre. The tour commenced last Monday at the Opera House, Harrogate, when a very successful start was made; thence they go to the Opera House, Scarborough.

Miss Maibel Russell is temporarily forsaking the musical comedy stage for the "legitimate." Mr. George Edwardes has very generously allowed her to appear in a principal part in "Within the Law," the new play which Mr. Frederick Harrison produces, in conjunction with Mr. Michael Faraday and Sir Herbert Tree, at the Haymarket Theatre on Saturday, May 24.

The directors of the Liverpool Repertory Theatre, having decided to change their policy with regard to the future, Mr. Basil Dean has tendered his resignation from his position as general-manager. Mr. Dean's immediate plans include the production in London of "Fifinella," the Christmas fairy play, which was such a success in Liverpool last Christmas.

The cast of "Dropping the Pilot," the new four act comedy by Mr. Keble Howard, which will be produced at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, on Monday, under the direction of Keble Howard and Dick Adams, includes: Miss May Pardoe, Miss Madge McIntosh, Miss Nora Kessler, Miss Elaine Steddall, Mr. James Gelderd, Mr. Stanley Lathbury, Mr. John Napper, Miss Eille Norwood, Miss Pearl Keats, Miss Alison Gillies, and Mr. Bruce Irving.

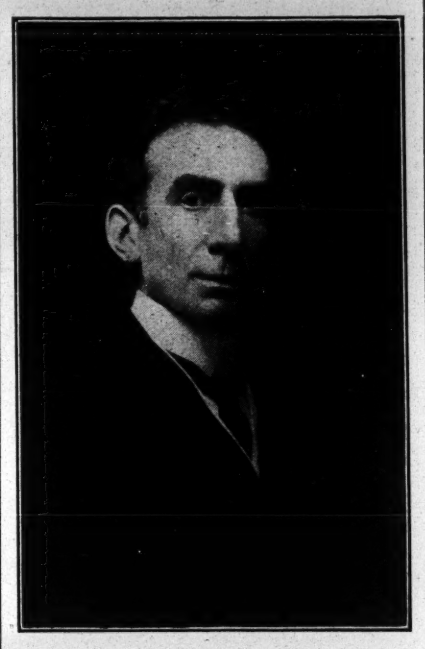
MR. FREDERIC DE LARA.

The accomplishments of Mr. Frederic de Lara as an Elocutionist and Reciter, and as an Actor, are so well known to, and appreciated by, the public that it is quite superfluous to preface a record relative to some of his interesting activities with any introductory observations.

It often occurs that the Master of Theory can by no means be accounted a Master of Practice; but in the course of an illuminating chat with an "Era" representative at a well-known Club one afternoon this week Mr. de Lara was emphatic in his declaration that in connection with his own work precept and practice always went happily hand in hand. Mr. de Lara is well known as a professor of Voice culture. His methods are simple, yet remarkable. He divides the study into four branches—Breathing, Articulation, Style, and Expression.

"I am of the opinion," said Mr. de Lara, "that the real artiste should be able to, as it were, hypnotise himself in order that he, in turn, may mesmerise his audience. The artiste should really believe, for the time being, that he is the character he is impersonating, in order that he may make the audience believe it in turn. That is, in my belief, the real secret of success in Opera or on the stage. The development of the physiological and mental sides of speech and song I regard as of the highest importance.

"Where did I first commence to appear before the London public? At the Steinway Hall, several years ago, in Lecture Recitals; and I still continue them there. For instance, on May 16 next,



[*Photo by Francis Hart.*

MR. FREDERIC DE LARA.

by the kind permission of Mr. Gaston Mayer (as you know I am playing in 'The Yellow Jacket' at the Duke of York's Theatre), I am giving a Recital there, assisted by Mrs. Frederic de Lara, my wife; and Dr. H. H. Hulbert, Lecturer on Voice to the University of London, will afford me his valuable services upon the occasion."

"And as an actor?"

"I commenced my professional career in this capacity nearly 20 years ago, and appeared for some time in many of the principal parts in Shakespearean plays. Later I played Svengali in 'Trilby' (with, I believe, very considerable success), as Macari in 'Called Back,' Correze in 'Moths,' and in many other well-known dramas.

"Then I experienced a serious breakdown in health, which decided me to leave the stage and devote myself to teaching voice cultivation and correct articulation in song. This latter I hold, I may say, to differ considerably from articulation in speech. It was during this period I became acquainted with Dr. Hulbert's system of breathing—which I am convinced is the best system for both singers and speakers. Indeed, I am positive that by adopting it I owe my own restoration to health, and to feeling to-day, bodily and mentally, better than ever I felt in my life.

"Thus it occurred that I decided to return to the stage."

"And your parts in that interesting play, 'The Yellow Jacket.' Doubtless they appeal to you?"

"Yes, in my part of the Spirit, Ling Wan, in the first act, and that of the Philosopher, Git Hok Gar, in the second and third acts, I indeed find two very interesting characters.

"I would, please, like to add that in the whole of my career the two artistes who mostly influenced my work are my brother, Isidore de Lara, and Monsieur Victor Maurel."

It may be mentioned that Mr. Frederic de Lara is always assisted at his popular recitals by his most charming and talented wife—thus making an ideal combination.

Mr. Louis Calvert and his company will revive "Our Boys" at the New Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, with Mr. Calvert as Perkin Middlewick, and Miss Dorothy Parry, Judge Parry's daughter, as Mary.

The Oncomers' Society will give their eighth matinée on May 30 at the Little Theatre. Two plays will be presented, both from the pen of Mr. Christopher Sandemen, the first a comedy in one act entitled "The Pot and the Kettle," followed by a drama in three acts entitled "Blind Fate." Miss Darragh, Miss Helen Pendennis, Mr. Bernard Copping, and Mr. Ernest Haines will appear.

Two performances of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," with Mendelssohn's music, will be given by the students of the London Academy of Music, assisted by some members of Mr. Charles Fry's Shakespearean Company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Fry, on Monday, May 19, and Thursday, May 22.

At the Theatre Royal, Bristol, on the 2nd inst., Mr. H. C. Alty, the resident manager for the past seven years, who has accepted the position of manager of the Prince's Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, had a benefit, to which artists from the Prince's Theatre, the Bristol Hippodrome, the Bedminster Hippodrome, and the Empire gave their services. There was a distinguished audience, and in an interval Alderman C. A. Hayes, the ex-Lord Mayor, went on the stage and presented Mr. Alty with an illuminated address and a purse of gold on behalf of Mr. Alty's many friends.

Mr. Lewis Waller, who is in London, will be off to Australia in a week or two. He will be accompanied by Miss Madge Titheradge, Mr. Evelyn Beerbohm, Mr. G. S. Titheradge, and Mr. Charles Quartermaine. He is to play his favourite part as Henry V., and is taking out new plays by Mr. Sydney Grundy and Mr. William Devereux. Six months will be spent at Sydney and Melbourne, and Mr. Waller may pay his return visit to Canada before returning to London.

THE "SMALLS" OF SOUTH AFRICA.

BY A TRAVELLING MANAGER.

Much has been written about South Africa from a theatrical touring point of view, so far as the larger towns are concerned, but little, if anything, as to the smaller ones. With a versatile company, which must be small, no more than ten, playing the right pieces, money can be made. The railway expense, owing to vast distances, is, of course, enormous, but careful booking mitigates this, and a successful tour can be booked through the "smalls." I propose to chronicle some items of interest in an interesting trip from the Cape to the Zambesi, including parts of Portuguese East and West Africa.

We landed in Cape Town, and, by reason of previous booking, had first of all to proceed to Salisbury, in Rhodesia, a matter of a five-days' train journey, to start the real tour, the itinerary of which was, roughly, as follows: Rhodesia, Portuguese East Africa, Eastern Transvaal, Northern Transvaal, Orange Free State, Natal, through the Transki, back to Natal, down through the Cape Province to Cape Town, home. I cannot speak in too high terms of the S.A. State railways; they are of the utmost comfort. The bedding arrangements are really A1. Take the charge, for instance, 2s. 6d. for an unbroken journey—i.e., a four or five days' journey—bed 2s. 6d., and a comfortable one, too. Then, again, oh! the delight of it! A shower and needle bath at each end of the coach. It is not astonishing that in such circumstances one can be really comfortable on a train. Unfortunately, though, this applies to the main line only; the branch lines are at times pretty rough. We arrived at Salisbury, and got our first surprise at the Palace Theatre there. We expected to see a more or less tin tabernacle sort of building, and a house of more or less unkempt, bearded miners and farmers. Judge, then, our surprise when the curtain went up to see a mass of well-groomed men and women, the former in preponderance, in evening dress, and what a house, £189, to open with!

We entrained to Umtali from Salisbury, a distance of 250 miles. The scenery covering this portion of the route is typical of the whole of Rhodesia, enormous pastures intersected by gigantic rocks and, literally, myriads of ant-hills.

Umtali itself is a collection of houses built of wooden frames and corrugated iron sides and roofs, the latter, if very "swagger," painted red. Excellent business was the result of our visit.

AN HONEST "BOY."

An incident well worth recording happened on the journey to one of our ladies. It should be explained that all trains in Africa have windows, both in the doors and sides, that all open, and during the hot season this is truly a blessing, as the momentum of the train causes a natural draught, which, as can be well imagined, everyone takes advantage of. To further explain the incident, it should be noted that stations are anything from ten to twenty miles apart. Well, what happened was this. The lady in question had placed her purse, containing all her salary, and incidentally that of her husband's, on the window ledge, and by a sudden jerk out of the window it went. What was to be done? At once the lady went to the conductor at the rear end of the train and explained the matter, and asked that the train should be stopped. Naturally, some time had elapsed and some distance covered before this explanation was afforded.

"Stop the train?" said the conductor. "Oh, no, miss, we can't do that, but we'll send a boy (a native runner) along the line for it from Umtali," a distance of twenty odd miles. Despairing of ever seeing it again, the lady had to be content, and on arriving at Umtali, with the conductor's and the station-master's aid, the boy was duly sent. Lo and behold! to the lady's utter astonishment and delight, the next afternoon up comes the runner to the hotel, a mass of dust and grinning white teeth, with the purse, absolutely intact. The reward he wanted was so utterly ridiculous that the lady felt bound to double it, and on receiving his largesse, away went the "boy," probably the most contented one in Africa.

Mark you, the European-spoilt natives in the larger towns would in all probability not have been either so honest in their methods nor so modest as to the value of their services.

INTERRUPTED BY LIONS.

Our next "trek" was on to Gatooma, and this for adventure and rarity was perhaps the "crême de la crême" of the tour. Conceive to yourselves an evening entertainment spoilt by lions, the real wild native variety! Such was the case on the first night of our performance, for as soon as it was dark—a very rapid matter in South Africa, there being practically no twilight—a party of lions, obviously hungry ones, had come into the very centre of the town—i.e., the market-place—and had killed and taken away two young oxen. Of course, a hue and cry was raised, and, their "spoor" being followed, two of them were killed early the following morning. But, in the words of the classic ditty, "No show this evening, no show to-night," was the woeful result, so far as we were concerned. I am glad to add that on the following night we played to a "packer," and this brings me to a few words as regards the Opera House, Gatooma.

I have already remarked it was a "tin tabernacle" sort of affair, but above all two incidents, one gruesome and the other, to put it mildly, peculiar, stand out as incidents worthy of record of our visit.

We had put up our fit-ups early in the morning, and on some of us going into the building at about 11 o'clock a.m., to our surprise found that a court was sitting, the judge and lawyers using the stage as a background for the trial of three native prisoners for murder, the result being: one acquitted and two committed on the capital charge. The Opera House had no seats, and only a beaten-earth floor, and on my gentle enquiry as to seating, I was calmly informed by a gentleman in breeches, shirt-sleeves, and a strong pipe that "every beggar brought his own."

Our next move, or, in the S.A. vernacular, trek, was to Selukwe, a distance of about 120 miles, and there happened, in my opinion, a real comic-opera scene between two local magistrates. Again had the hall been used as a court-house, and at the end of the proceedings we were rather astonished, and, I may add, pleased, when two of the magistrates, dropping all legal severity, invited us to come across to the hotel and "have a little something." The something was in the throes of discussion when, to our further astonishment, our two hosts started a wordy warfare, in somewhat the following style:—

"Look here, Charlie, it's all dam fine, but whenever you get short of boys (niggers) you always send round to my location, get up a lot of charges, arrest as many as you want, and make the poor devils work for you pending trial. I'm fed up with it."

"Well," was the amazing rejoinder, "when you're short you try it on old ——, but always do at the end of the month, then you've got 'em working for at least three or four weeks before they can move, and what's more they're better fed, and into the bargain put on side when they're released, with their pals; in fact, it gives 'em a social leg-up. Have another drink."

A COMEDIAN'S MISHAP.

It was here (Selukwe) that our principal comedian had a comic experience—not comical at the moment, I grant, but laughable afterwards.

In coming from the dressing-room, a room off the hotel, across to the stage, after a change for a number—there being absolutely no accommodation behind—in the utter black of an African night, down he went plomp into a disused well, dry, thanks, etc., and there he had to wait, yelling in a Yiddisher make-up whilst his symphony was being played over and over again, till a black boy came in with the news that "baas was crying down well." His rescue was then a speedy matter, and I may add that the explanation of the delay given to the audience did not spoil the reception of the number, particularly when one wag roared out for an encore from "Little Benjamin from the bottom of the well." But, if possible, another member distinguished himself even more. The place being lighted by paraffin lamps, he, in giving an extra energetic finish to a dance, brought down not only the house, but three lamps on a batten on to the stage, extinguishing both the lights and nearly himself in the effort. More laughter, more applause; in fact, I think at Selukwe we enjoyed the audience as much as they did us—an excellent state of affairs.

At Mafeking we were invited to a big-game shoot, and great was the excitement and vast the preparation for the start at 3.30 a.m. The first question was arms and ammunition.

"Oh, that's all right," said one of our friends. "I'll lend you one gun, and old Davidson will lend you a couple or three. Unfortunately, he's away up country, and all his stuff is locked up; but I think I can find the key, and I know you'll be more than welcome."

Well, a grand hunt took place to find the key, but all of no avail. In the end, however, not to be beaten, our friend got through one of the windows, and, finding the requisite armament, passed it through the same aperture, then, heels first, came out himself. In addition to this, he lent one of the party a shooting coat with leathered shoulders. Thus, more or less thoroughly equipped, and, thanks be! well victualled, we started in the small hours in a couple of Cape carts for the bush, at four o'clock outspanned, and had some "scoff." Then as dawn broke away we started to hunt, with a weird collection of dogs, all more or less broken to the gun. And what a day!

The first thing that struck us was the persistent call of a bird who possessed the most melancholy cry I've ever heard. It seemed a constant reiteration, in a peculiar minor key, of "Go away, go away." It was evidently a put-up job between the bird and the game, for, save for a few baboons, not a stitch of either fur or feather did we see the whole sweltering day long. Go away seemed to chase us everywhere, and the game took the advice. Not a shot did we fire the day long, till returning in the cool of the evening one of the party, who shall be nameless as a sportsman, though good as a comedian, loosed off with an explosive bullet at a small bird, and, strange to say, hit it. The result was a puff of feathers in the air and a rapid exit of the bird as it flew away, minus part of its tail; but our Nimrod has since prided himself on the fact that, had it been something substantial, he'd have bagged it. So, hungry and laughing, we returned, innocent of any deed of blood, but full of ardour as ever. Later we got some of the real thing, and topping good sport it was amongst the Springbok and Blesbok. Particularly was this the case when we got into the Orange Free State and the Eastern Transvaal, the Buschveld, through the Kaap Muiden district; in fact, between that place and Lourenco Marques, in Portuguese East Africa, the whole country is packed with game of every description.

(*To be continued.*)

THE ECCENTRIC CLUB LADIES' AFTERNOON.

The eccentricity of the hospitable Eccentric Club was most pleasantly exercised on Tuesday, when its annual Ladies' Afternoon was held at the Hotel Cecil. The complete and well-thought-out arrangements for the enjoyment of their guests were in the hands of the genial hon. sec., Mr. J. A. Harrison, and of the Entertainment Committee, of which Mr. Richard Warner is chairman. The members of the committee, Messrs. A. Aldin, W. J. W. Beard, F. Bishop, C. Blythe-Pratt, F. H. Callingham, T. Fraser, W. de Frece, F. Glenister, J. Le Hay, H. J. Homer, T. Honey, S. Jousiffe, Norfolk Megone, G. Moore, E. Stuart, J. Wilson, L. Zeitlin, and Major H. Bateman, were assisted by Messrs. H. Montague Bates, W. Clifford, A. East, A. Ellis, W. E. Garstin, P. Leftwich, S. J. Pallant, and W. J. Dayer Smith as stewards. At the afternoon concert, which was preceded by a luncheon to artistes and other friends in the Richelieu Room, many prominent and popular performers kindly appeared by permission of their respective managers. The Meistersingers orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Norfolk Megone, played many well selected items of light music, and were followed by admirably rendered songs, both grave and gay, from Misses Kitty Adams, Beatrice Allen, Gladys Archbutt, Eily Beadell, Annie Bartle, Ella Caspers, Lil Hawthorne, Winifred Hayes, Gordon, Edith Blanchard, Edith Trevor, and Josephine Davis. Miss Floyd Ariston was heard in the now ubiquitous rag-time; Miss Irene Constance-Lee gave some clever vocal character studies at the piano; little Minnie Shelley danced and sang with natural impish gaiety; Senorita Carmen Turia, the charming Spanish soprano, deputised very delightfully for the Baroness Mashgo (La Papilione); and a party of nine ladies, under the direction of Mr. Gustave Ferrari, sang some old French action songs in costume with much spirit. Mr. Walter Churcher told some funny stories; Mr. Sterndale Bennett accompanied himself in his latest song; Mr. Albert Farley recited with telling effect; Mr. Denis O'Neil captured his audience by the Celtic fire and pathos of his rendering of "Father O'Flynn"; Mr. Lempriere Pringle sang the song of the Eccentric Club, specially composed for the occasion by Messrs. Charles Clark and George Hanson; Mr. Stuart Debnam was amusing in a modern lullaby; and Messrs. Webster, Millar, Constantine Morris, Leslie Stiles, and Lorne Wallet gave much pleasure by their artistically rendered songs. Messrs. Billy Geller, James Kift, Sinclair Mantell, and Frank Mayban rendered good service at the piano during the afternoon.

Mr. Arnold Bennett's remarkably successful comedy, "The Great Adventure," will reach its 50th performance at the Kingsway to-night. Miss Lillah McCarthy and Mr. Granville Barker's audiences have included many personages of rank and distinction.

"Oh! Oh!! Delphine!!!" will be played at the Shaftesbury Theatre for the 100th time this afternoon, and will certainly be one of the most popular attractions of the Whitsuntide holidays.

Mr. Robert Evett will soon leave England for America to play a leading part in "The Doll Girl," Mr. Frohman's first musical comedy production of the New York autumn season. The book is by Messrs. Callaivet and De Flers, and the score by Mr. Leo Fall.

A new musical play, entitled "Claude Abroad," will be produced at the Aldwych Theatre on May 27, and each evening until the 31st, in aid of the Middlesex Hospital. The theatre has been lent for these performances by Sir Joseph Beecham. There will be a chorus of over fifty, and the orchestra will be under the direction of Mr. Cecil Forsyth. The play will be produced by Mr. Standley Wade.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 12.

Allah's Orchard.—Metropole T., Openshaw.
Amazons, The.—T.R., Guildford.
Andie Caine's Entertainers.—Pavilion, Filey.
An Indian Girl's Devotion.—T.R., Huddersfield.
Arcadians, The.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Aristocrats, The (North).—Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells.
Aristocrats, The (S.).—Pier, Weymouth.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—T.R., Belfast.
Balkan Princess.—T.R., Worthing.
Bear-Leaders, The.—West Pier, Brighton.
Benson, F. R.—New T., Cardiff.
Benson, F. R. (Mr. Herbert).—T.R., Canterbury.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Hereford and Llandrindod Wells.
Blind Girl's Love.—O.H., St. Helens.
Blue Myths, The.—Pier Pavilion, Lytham.
Bonnie Mary.—T.R., Barnsley.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (S.).—T.R., Bradford.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (N.).—Nottingham.
Busy Bees, The.—O.P., Hanley.
Butterfly on the Wheel.—Scarboro' and Harrogate.
Cantabs (Drew's).—Tower, Blackpool.
Carltonians, The.—Withernsea.
Cattle Thief.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Charley's Aunt.—County T., Reading.
Cheeros, The.—Cosy Corner, Redhill.
Chocolate Soldier (N.).—D.P.T., Eastbourne.
Chocolate Soldier (No. 1). — Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Cigarettes, The.—Southampton.
Cingalee, The.—T.R., Rochdale.
Clement's Entertainers.—Arcadia. Skegness.
Clever Impostor.—Hippodrome, Huddersfield
Collier's Lass (N.).—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Collier's Lass (S.).—Palace T., Porth.
Colombo Girl, The.—Grand T., Plymouth.
Comedies, The.—Hippo., Llandudno.
Corinthians, The.—Spa, Bridlington.
Coronation Entertainers.—Arcadian Pavilion, Shrewsbury.
Count of Luxembourg (Edwardes).—O.H., Dudley.
Dan Hardie's Players.—West End Pier, Morecambe.
Dick e Clare.—Metropole T., Abertillery.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—O.H., Buxton.
Draper, Marcus.—P.O.W., Grimsby.
Dust of Egypt.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Easiest Way, The.—Haggar's T., Llanelly.
East Lynne (Pitt-Hardacre).—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Elite Entertainers, The.—Park Concerts, Birmingham.
Euterpeans, The.—Pier Gardens, Kingstown.
Excelsiors.—Pav., Bradford.
Face at the Window.—T.R., Sunderland.
Fatal Wedding.—Grand T., Nottingham.
For Her Children's Sake.—G.T., Nottingham.
For His King and the Girl He Loved.—Pavilion T., Earlestown.
Fantastics, The. — Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.
From Mill Girl to Millionairess.—O.H., Coventry.
Gaieties, The.—North Pier, Blackpool.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—Grand T., Doncaster.
Gay Bohemians, The.—Bohemia, Broadstairs.
Gay Cadets, The.—Beach Pav., Bournemouth.
Gay Gondoliers.—Mowlem Institute, Swanage.
Gay Lieutenants.—Gaiety, Douglas.
Gay Sparks.—Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend.
Gems, The.—Leamington.
Genials, The.—Arcadia, Preston.
Georgians, The.—Tower, Morecambe.
Gipsies and Their Jester.—Pier, New Brighton.
Girl's Good Luck.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Glad Eye (Meyer).—Grand T., Hull.
Glad Eye (Meyer).—Grand T., Leeds.
Gossips, The.—Pav., Heswall.
Grotesques, The.—Pier Pavilion, Southport.
Her Love Against the World.—Hippo., Sheffield.
Hindle Wakes.—Broadway T., Deptford, S.E.
Hindle Wakes.—Century T., Motherwell.
Hindle Wakes.—King's T., Sunderland.
Humoresks, The.—Rusholme Pav., Manchester.
Ideals, The.—Pier Pav., Shanklin, I.O.W.
Improper Peter.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Indian Scout, The.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Kirby's Concert Party.—Margate.
La Comedie Anglaise.—P.H., Curragh Camp.
Lady Slavey.—T.R., Manchester.
Les Vivandieres.—Carlton Pav., St. Anne's-on-Sea.
Life for a Life.—Grand T., Stockton.
Lifeguardsman, The.—Hippodrome, Ilford.
L.S.D.'s, The.—Pier, Cromer.
Lyrics, The.—Leytonstone.
Mad Hatters, The.—Montpelier Gardens, Cheltenham.
Man and Superman.—T.R., Glasgow.
March Hares.—Pier Pavilion, Penarth.
Marsh, Alexander, Shakespearean.—County T., Bangor.
Merry Mascots.—Gordon Promenade, Gravesend.
Mexicans, The.—Pav., Derby.
Mid Pleasures and Palaces.—T.R., Bury.
Midnight Mail.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Midnight Wedding, The.—Empire T., Islington.
Milestones (Red).—Court T., Liverpool.
Milestones (White).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Milestones (Blue).—P.G.T., Folkestone.
Miracle, The.—Grand T., Swansea.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
Montague's Mountebanks.—Pavilion, Newport.
Mormon and His Wives.—T.R., Oldham.
Motherless.—Grand T., Lancaster.
Mother's Love.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Nick Carter.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Nightbirds, The.—A.R., Malvern.
Nobodys, The (Leslie's).—Clarence Pier, Southsea.
Nomads, The.—Mikado Hall, Hunstanton.
Old Home, The.—Court T., Warrington.
O'Mara Opera Co.—New T., Oxford.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Palace Pier, Brighton.
Oysters, The.—Town Hall, Sheringham.
Phantoms.—Alexandra Palace, N.
Pink Lady, The.—Borough T., Stratford, E.
Poppies, The.—Weston-super-Mare.
Prairie Outlaw.—Hippodrome, Salford.
Preston's Popular Pierrots.—Pav., Withernsea.
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—Hippodrome, Rotherhithe.
P's and Q's, The.—Stanhope Hall, Deal.
Purple Poms, The.—Southsea.
Queen of the Redskins (S.).—Coliseum, Goole.
Queen's Courtiers.—Cardiff.
Quiet Quakers.—Seaford
Quinlan Opera Co.—T.R., Dublin.
Ranchers, The.—Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Ready Money.—T.R., York.
Reversibles.—Hunstanton.
Royal Divorce, A.—T.R., Birmingham.
Royal Entertainers, The.—Pier Pav., Ventnor.
Royde Rept. Co.—Palace Pier, Brighton
Scarleteers.—Summer Gardens, Barry Island.
Scarlet Pierrots, The.—Pav., New Brighton.
Silhouttes.—Exmouth.
Sledge-Hammer, The.—Empire T., Cradley Heath.
So-and-So's, The.—T.R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Society Idols.—Central Pier, Morecambe.
Soldier Princess.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Somebodies, The.—Triangle Hall, Bristol (Clifton).
South Coast Repertory.—T.R., Canterbury.
Sparklets, The.—Pier Pav., St. Anne's-on-Sea.
Spick and Span.—Beach Pav., Walton-on-Naze.
Still Alarm.—T.R., Bolton.
Stingarees.—De Valence Gardens, Tenby.
Tomson's (David) Entertainers.—Beach Pav., Aberdeen.
Turning Point, The.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
Vagabond Players, The.—Palace, Clacton.
Valentines, The.—W.G., Onchan, Douglas.
West End Dandies.—Sandyland's Pav., Morecambe.
What Women Will Do For Love.—Bishop Auckland.
Whimsicals, The.—Gillingham Park, Kent.
White Girl Slave, The.—King's T., Worksop.
Whitty-Van Praagh Rept.—Met. T., Bootle.
Why Women Love.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Wife for a Day, A.—Grand T., Doncaster.
Witness for the Defence.—Palace T., Aberaman.
Woman He Wanted, The.—T.R., Rochdale.
Younger Generation, The.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
10.30 Down Express.—Hippodrome, Sheerness.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by L. and N.W. route on Sunday next:—Quinlan Opera Co., Liverpool to Dublin; Castellano Opera Co., Manchester to Colwyn Bay; "Milestones," Dublin to Liverpool; "What Ho! Ragtime," Glasgow to Manchester; Mr. James Welch's Co., Brighton to Blackpool; "Bungle's Luck," Brighton to Wolverhampton; "Butterfly on the Wheel," Manchester to Scarboro'; "Dancing Mistress," Hull to Blackpool; "Peggy," Perth to Liverpool for New Brighton; "Doormats," Manchester to Leamington; Mr. Alexander Marsh's Co., Liverpool to Bangor; Liverpool Repertoire Co., Liverpool to Rhyl; "Two Little Vagabonds," Dublin to Bristol; "Lady Slavey," Birkenhead to Manchester; Harry Roxbury's Co., Birkenhead to Ashton; Mr. Fred Karno's "Wakes Week" Co., Preston to Manchester; "Girl Who Wrecked His Life," Preston to Manchester; "McDougal at Bute," Hamilton to Stockport; T. Elder Hearne's Co., London to Crewe; "Cowboy's Revenge," London to Wigan; Empire Opera Singers, London to Blackpool; "The Gaieties," London to Blackpool; "Great Carmo," Widnes to Fencehouses; "Idol of Paris," St. Helens to Keighley; "Pride of Byzantia," Wigan to Stockport; "Station Master," Manchester to Newcastle; Lew Lake's Co., Paisley to Liverpool; "Outcast of Family," Woolwich to Stafford; "The Amazons," Birkenhead to Guildford; "White Slaves of London," Bolton to Brighton; Raynor's Repertoire Co., Birmingham to Preston; "Stepmother," Smethwick to Wellingboro'; "Temptress of Paris," Wolverhampton to Tunstall; "Blue Myths," Stafford to Lytham; "Colombo Girl," Runcorn to London; "The Barrier," St. Helens to Southport; "Girl's Good Luck," Stockport to Leeds; "The Grotesques," Carlisle to Southport; "Another Man's Wife," Earlestown to Dewsbury; Royde's Repertoire Co., Northampton to Stourbridge; "A White Slave," London to Nelson; Geni Family, London to Manchester; "Arsene Lupin," London to Birmingham; "Miss Plaster—of Paris," Nuneaton to Cannock; "Slave Girl," Leigh and Bedford to Nuneaton; "Witness for Defence," Blackpool to Aberaman; "Casey's Court," Salford to Abertillery; "Mrs. Dane's Defence," Liverpool to London; Farmer Skein Repertoire Co., Blackpool to Workington; "For His King and the Girl He Loved," Lancaster to Earlestown; "Blind Girl's Love," Rochdale to St. Helens; "Royal Divorce," Coventry to Birmingham; Maurice's Co., Congleton to Thrapston; "Millgirl and Miner," Birmingham to Bolton, &c.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The under-mentioned theatrical parties will be travelling over the above company's system to-morrow (Sunday):—The "Sexton Blake" Co. and The Musical Bell Hattons will leave Waterloo by the 11.50 a.m. for Southampton. Other companies Messrs. Moreton and Heath's "Miss Hook of Holland," Aldershot to Great Yarmouth: "Sledge Hammer," Portsmouth to Cradley Heath; "Baby Mine," Southampton to Bognor; "Bear Leaders," Bournemouth to Brighton; The Russian Ballet, Bournemouth to Eastbourne; Fred. Karno's "Perkins in Paris," Aldershot to Sunderland: Excelsiors, Portsmouth to Bradford; Music-Hall Artistes, Portsmouth to Waterloo; "Convent Bell," Okehampton to Falmouth; "The Poppies," Portsmouth to Weston-super-Mare; "Frederica," Portsmouth to Weston-super-Mare; Stuart Cleveland's "A Policeman and a Man," Nantyglo to Portsmouth; "The Amazons," Birkenhead to Guildford

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Theatrical companies en route Sunday, May 11: "The Arcadians," Glasgow to Bristol; "Princess Caprice," Newcastle to Birmingham; D'Oyly Carte's Repertoire Co., Leicester to Buxton; "Everybody," Leicester to Derby; The Follies, Birmingham to Plymouth; "The Glad Eye," Birmingham to Leeds; "The Balkan Princess," Luton to Worthing; F. R. Benson's Co., Bedford to Canterbury; The Palladium Minstrels, Sheffield to London and Liverpool; Fred Karno's Co., Chesterfield to Barrow; "Her Love Against the World," Liverpool to Sheffield; "Round Un," Gloucester to Hanley; Elliott Savonas, Worcester to London; "The Wages of Sin," Sutton-in-Ashfield to Hartlepool; "Count of Luxembourg," Mansfield to Dudley; "The Speckled Band," Dudley to Harrogate; "Somebody's Sweetheart," Birmingham to Plymouth; "Bunty Pulls the Strings," Middlesbrough to Bradford; "Frontier Queen," Newcastle to Sheffield; "A Queen for a Wife," Burton to Wolverhampton; "Hullo! Ragtime," Newcastle to Birmingham; Romps, Newcastle to Hanley; Stanley Cook's Co., Sheffield to London; "Indian Scouts," Manchester to Mansfield; "Leaves of Memory," Manchester to London; "Casey Court," Manchester to Abertillery; "Nobodies," Manchester to Southsea; "Mexicans," Bridlington to Derby; "At the Mercy of the Mormons," Manchester to Treherbert; Gay Lieutenants, Derby to Douglas; "Ready Money," Nottingham to Northampton; "Cattle Thief," Nottingham to London; Ten Loonies, Rotherham to Chesterfield; Charburn's Stars, Glasgow to Bradford; "Idol of Paris," St. Helens to Keighley; Les Petits Anglais, Rushden to Birmingham; "Walls of Jericho," Leeds to Ilkley; "Manxman," Leicester to Rawtenstall; "Cowboy's Redemption," Leeds to Birmingham; "His Child Wife," Bootle to Kettering; "Stepmother," Smethwick to Rushden, etc.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to mor ow (Sunday):—"Bunty Pulls the Strings," Aberdeen to Nottingham; Bros. Luck, Glasgow to Nottingham; "McDougal at Bute," Hamilton to Stockport; "Papa's Boys," Cowdenbeath to London; "Brewster's Millions," Edinburgh to London; "Submarine F7," Glasgow to Southampton; Charburn's Young Stars, Glasgow to Bradford; "Dust of Egypt," Dundee to Newcastle; Channing's Bells, Prudhoe to Galashiels; "Instinct," Newcastle to Edinburgh; Williams Troupe, Spennymoor to Consett; "Beautiful Fiend," Spennymoor to Murton; "Gay Gordens," Bishop Auckland to Tynemouth; "Mormon and Maid," Sunderland to Spennymoor; "What Women Will Do for Love," Fencehouses to Bishop Auckland; Haley's Garden of Girls, High Shields to Ashington; "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife," Durham to Hull; "Hullo! Ragtime," Newcastle to Birmingham; "Princess Caprice," Sunderland to Birmingham; Wrong 'Uns, Jarrow to Northampton; Beaumont's Circus, Birtley to Bradford; The Romps, North Shields to Hanley; Gaby Revette, Newcastle to Earlstown; Harry Tate, Sunderland to Liverpool; "Frontier Queen," Newcastle to Sheffield; "Nick Carter," Thornaby to Newcastle; "Marked Money," Stockton to South Shields; Perezoffs, London to Scarborough; "The Mexicans," Bridlington to Derby; "Bunty Pulls the Strings," Middlesbrough to Bradford; Everard's, Middlesbrough to Brighton; "Midnight Mail," Middlesbrough to Birkenhead; "Viviana," Middlesbrough to Birmingham; Great Carmo, Widnes to Fencehouses; "Stationmaster," Manchester to Newcastle; "Butterfly on the Wheel," Manchester to Scarborough; "Dancing Mistress," Hull to Blackpool; "Eternal Waltz," Hull to Sheffield; "Girl's Temptation," Hull to Castleford; Wille Bros., Hull to Sheffield; Toby Claude's Co., King's Cross to Edinburgh; U.S.A. Minstrels, King's Cross to Glasgow; "Country Girl," York to Leicester; "Man and Superman," Sheffield to Newcastle; "Younger Generation," Harrogate to Glasgow.

LONDON, BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

Theatrical movements to-morrow (Sunday): "Oh, I say," Brighton to Blackpool; "Bungle's Luck," Brighton to Wolverhampton; "His House in Order," Hastings to Ventnor; "Hindle Wakes," Portsmouth to New Cross; "Chocolate Soldier," Hastings to Eastbourne; "Soldier Princess," Brighton to Victoria; "Milestones," Eastbourne to Folkestone; Julia Neilson Co., Bradford to Brighton; "Ann," Oxford to Hastings; Graham's Co., Dover to Eastbourne; "What Happened to Jones," Brighton to Hastings; "Importance of Being Earnest," Brighton to Victoria; Max Erard Co., Middlesbrough to Brighton; "The Creole," Victoria to Littlehampton; "The Tide," Tunbridge Wells to Portsmouth; "Why Woman Sins," Victoria to Portsmouth; "Bear Leaders," Bournemouth to Brighton; Russian Ballett Co., Bournemouth to Eastbourne; "Baby Mine," Southampton to Bognor.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. PERCY BALLARD.

Mr. Percy Ballard started his business career as a bank clerk, and was cashier at Forest Hill and Sydenham branches of the London and South-Western Bank for about ten years. Probably being a member of the St Peter's Amateur Dramatic Club, St. John's, gave him a taste for the stage, and he left the bank to join Mr. J. D. Hunter's stock season at Hastings, where he played a round of character parts in old and new comedies. At the finish of four seasons he joined Mr. T. W. Tingar's touring company till the following season at Hastings, returning to Mr. Hunter to play in drama. At the end of the season he took an engagement with Mr. W. W. Kelly to play Grimaud in "A Royal Divorce." After being with Mr. Kelly for about twelve months, he acted in a drama by the late Fred Jarman, but, meeting Mr. Norman V. Norman, he arranged with him to play the character parts in his repertoire, including Dick Phenyl in "Sweet Lavender," Eccles in "Caste," Scara in "In His Power," Potter in "Still Waters Run Deep," Col. Damas in "The Lady of Lyons."

Next followed a tour as Nero in "The Sign of the Cross" with Mr. Ben Greet, whom he left to join Mr. Forbes-Robertson's company at the Lyceum in a production of "Macbeth," playing

MR. PERCY BALLARD.

one of the murderers, and Barnado in the production of "Hamlet." At the end of the season came a tour with Mr. C. Abud in "The Prisoner of Zenda," playing Col. Sapt; then a tour with Miss Kate Phillips of "His Excellency the Governor," playing Capt. Rivers. Among others, Mr. Ballard has played leading parts with the late Mr. Frank Bateman's "From Scotland Yard" company; Mr. C. Abud's "Trilby" company (Svengali); the late Mr. Lester Collingwood's "When London Sleeps" company; Mr. Fred L. Connyngham's "A Mother's Love" company; Mr. John F. Preston's "Secrets" company; Messrs. Hill and Ayrton's "Saved from the Sea" company; Mr. F. G. Kimberley's "Two Little Drummer Boys" company; Mr. Frank Macnaghten's "When George was King" company; Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's "A Soldier of France" company; Mr. Fred Warden's stock season at Belfast; Mr. H. Foxwell's "A Broken Heart" company; Messrs. Gordon and Gelling's "The Temptress" company; Messrs. Carson and Granville's "Defending His Honour" company; Mr. Frank Stuart's "The Curate" company; Mr. Wm. Bourne's "Man to Man" company; Mr. Fredk. Melville's "Her Forbidden Marriage" company; Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's "Dishonoured" company; Mr. Julian Malvern's "I Defy the World" company; Mr. T. Morton Powell's "The Woman Who Gambles" company; Mr. L. Scudamore's "The Vengeance of Women" company; Mr. Frank M. Thorne's "Little Phil's Mother" company, and Prince Nicola in Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's "The Apple of Eden" company.

At one time Mr. Ballard had serious intentions of entering grand opera, and with this object studied for a considerable time, at the Guildhall School of Music, elocution and gesture under the late Mr. Henry Nelson, voice production under the late Mr. H. Kingsbury, harmony under Mr. Henry Gadsby, chorus singing under Mr. O'Donovan and Mr. H. L. Thomas. Circumstances prevented him continuing his studies, and led to him deciding for the drama. Mr. Ballard has met with the usual adventures and experiences that befall most travelling actors, having been flooded out of one theatre and burnt out of another, and stranded in unpleasant surroundings through the manager bolting with the returns.

A serial story by T. Arthur Plummer commences in the current number of "Pearson's Weekly."

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MORECAMBE MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

The twenty-second festival was held last week from Wednesday to Saturday in the Winter Gardens, Morecambe, and proved, both musically and financially, one of the most successful ever given. Amongst the adjudicators were such well-known names as Dr. McNaught, F.R.A.M., Dr. H. Walford Davies, Dr. J. W. J. Hathaway, Mr. Harry Evans, F.R.C.O., Mr. Charles Tree, and others.

Wednesday was devoted to the kiddies, and was almost the most enjoyable of the series, the standard of excellence reached by the winners in the solo classes being remarkable, and this more particularly applies to the singing of Master William Wells Hewitt, of Scarborough, the prize-winner in the Treble Solo Class, who possesses a clear flute-like voice and the technique almost of a prima donna; Miss Marjorie Brown, of Manchester, the best of the girl solists under sixteen years of age, of whom doubtless more will be heard in the future; and the violin playing of Master La Millard, of Wigan, who produces a beautiful tone, and has great powers of execution.

Thursday's programme consisted of local choir competitions, and the tenor and soprano solo classes, the winners in the latter, although good, comparing somewhat unfavourably with the previous day's successful ones. At the evening concert the specially engaged soloist was Miss Ethel M. Kemish, of the Chappell Ballad Concerts, a little lady who seems to have jumped at once into the very front rank of vocalists, as only last year she created a furore when at the Tower with the Georgians' Concert Party, and now, less than eight months later, she appears as soloist at the festival—truly a great advance, and a well-merited one.

Friday night was set apart for the festival concert, with band and chorus of 300, and Mr. Charles Tree as soloist, a fine performance of the late Mr. Coleridge-Taylor's "Bon-Bon Suite" being given amongst other items. Included amongst the prize-winners this day, special mention should be made of the Orpheus Male Quartet, Carlisle, whose blend and tone were delightful.

Saturday was the day of the "big" classes, and both afternoon and evening tremendous audiences assembled. Most interest was centred in the "challenge shield" mixed voice choir class and the "Gorton Howson" shield male voice choir competition. Some magnificent choral work was done in both these classes, the winners proving to be Blackpool Glee and Madrigal Society (conductor, Mr. H. Whittaker), of the former, and the Nelson Arion Glee Union (conductor, Mr. Lawson Berry), of the latter. Altogether there were fifty-four different competitions, in which upwards of 5,000 competitors took part, and although since Morecambe first inaugurated this type of festival many others have sprung up in different parts of the country, still this, the oldest, maintains its reputation as the greatest function of its kind in the kingdom.

Quin, the actor, was a great epicure, and made frequent journeys to Bath on purpose to eat John Dorey (a certain fish), for which dish that town had gained great renown. Quin arrived one night about eleven o'clock, went to bed without any supper, and ordered his servant to get a good dish of John Dorey, and call him at nine in the morning. At the appointed time next morning his servant knocked at his door, when Quin shouted, "Who's there?" "It's me, sir," replied his man. "Well, what do you say?" resumed the actor. "There will be no John Dorey to-day,"—was the reply. "The devil there won't!" roared Quin. "Then call me at nine to-morrow morning."

The Artiste's Home - - -

like every other home has to undergo the Annual disturbance known as "Spring Cleaning."

Members of Profession have little opportunity for giving time and attention to the matter, but the load can be lifted off their shoulders by their calling in The Chemical Cleaning & Dyeing Coy. They will send their men to take up Carpets, take down Blinds, Curtains, &c., and—after cleaning—replace same.

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THEATRICAL LAW.

THE GLASGOW SAVOY LEASE.

Legal arguments regarding the continuance of an interim interdict, granted in favour of Robert Allan Poynter Williams against the Savoy Theatre (Glasgow), Ltd., were recently heard by Sheriff Craigie in the Glasgow County Buildings.

Mr. Williams claimed that he was entitled to remain in possession of the theatre as lessee in virtue of a verbal lease for the year beginning Feb. 26, 1913, but the agents on the other side argued that the lease was a weekly one.

It transpired in the course of the argument that the defenders' intention was to close the theatre during the summer months and re-open on behalf of the present Savoy Company, Ltd., early in the autumn.

The Sheriff in recalling the interim interdict said he was determining nothing. He only recalled the interim interdict on the ground that defenders had shown a prima facie case in favour of the contention that there was no lease for a year subsisting between the petitioner and the defenders. He added that any other action could take its course.

THREATENING MR. MAUDE.

In the Court of Criminal Appeal on Monday Reginald Treloar appealed against a conviction and sentence of three years' penal servitude passed by Mr. Justice Lush at the Central Criminal Court for sending letters demanding money with menaces to Mr. Cyril Maude. The appellant's brother, George, was acquitted at the trial.

Mr. E. J. Purchase was for the appellant and Mr. Comyns Carr for the Crown.

Mr. Purchase said that the whole case against the appellant was that he was the writer of the letters. One was in printed characters, and the other in ordinary handwriting, which the prosecution alleged was similar to that in a memorandum-book found on the appellant when he was arrested. On the morning after the trial Mr. Justice Lush received the following letter, which was marked "personal," at the Central Criminal Court.

Mr. Justice Ridley: On which he had to pay twopence postage. (Laughter.)

Mr. Purchase: He did, and so did Mr. Cyril Maude. The letter is as follows:—"You gave Reginald Treloar three years. It was me who wrote the letters to Cyril Maude for spite. Compare the writing." Counsel said that specimens of the handwritings were enclosed. On the same day he (counsel) received a letter in the same handwriting.

Mr. Justice Ridley: But yours had a stamp on it?—Yes.

Mr. Justice Ridley: That was not fair. (Laughter.)

Counsel read the letter he received:—"Sir,—After Reginald Treloar getting such a heavy sentence I would like to say (sic) he is innocent. I did it. I wrote the letters. I posted the first one in a square off Kingsway, and the other at Wimborne-street, W."

Mr. Purchase submitted that it was perfectly convincing that these two letters were in the same writing as those sent to Mr. Maude. There was also a striking resemblance in the word "personal" on the envelopes. He contended that if the jury had had these two letters before them they would certainly not have convicted. The appellant, when he was arrested, frankly said that he was convicted about four years ago for sending begging letters to Mr. Maude. His story was that someone had written the letters in question out of spite. That statement, counsel pointed out, was repeated before the appellant knew of the new litters. The appellant was a bookmaker's clerk in the summer, and did odd jobs in the winter. Counsel said that he did not complain of the summing up, which was admirably fair.

Without calling upon Mr. Carr the Court dismissed the appeal.

Mr. Justice Avory said that it would have been obviously unsafe for the jury to have acted on the handwriting alone, but the Court was satisfied that they did not, but acted on other evidence. The sole ground on which leave to appeal was granted was with regard to the two additional letters that had been received by the judge and counsel. These letters wre obviously intended to convince both of the receivers that the writer of the letters to Mr. Maude was still at large. The Court, however, was not satisfied that the person who wrote the letters also wrote the documents which were the subject of the trial. There was cogent evidence to suggest that both the appellant and his brother were parties to the transaction. The letters might have been written by some person anxious to mislead the Court, and had imitated the handwriting. The appeal must be dismissed both with regard to the conviction and sentence. It was unnecessary to point out the extreme gravity of the offence, and the sentence was certainly not excessive.

THE SALE OF SEATS.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday, before Mr. Justice Bray, the hearing was resumed of the action by Mr. Oscar Hammerstein against Messrs. Keith, Prowse and Co., concert agents, New Bond-street, for £519, the balance alleged to be due in respect of the sale of seats at the London Opera House, Kingsway, defendants having guaranteed the sale of £2,250 (gross) worth of tickets for the twelve weeks' season commencing on April 22, 1912.

Mr. Scott Fox, K.C., and Mr. Raymond E. Negus (instructed by Mr. W. Negus) were for plaintiff; and Mr. Holman Gregory, K.C., and Mr. W. A. Jowitt (instructed by Messrs. Golding, Hargrove and Golding) represented defendants.

Mr. Jowitt, in opening defendants' case, said that the points on which he relied were that plaintiff produced only a proportion of the operas that appeared in the subscription prospectus shown to defendants; particularly that he failed to produce "The Merry Wives of Windsor"; that he failed to give matinées; and that there was repetition of the operas which was unreasonable.

Mr. Herbert Smith, a manager for defendants, said that twenty-eight operas were given in the list, but only eleven of those in the repertoire and two new ones were produced. The class who went to operas was limited, and they were dependent on the same people going several times. One big success would, he thought, have had a good effect on the season generally.

Cross-examined, witness said he did not remember any dissatisfaction with plaintiff's selection of the operas while the season was in progress. He did not agree that the reason of bad business given for not producing matinées was a good one. Through difficulties over the artistes it might not be easy to produce two or three operas, but that did not apply to a large number.

In re-examination witness said that at Covent Garden the repertoire for the same season comprised twenty-nine operas, and twenty-two or twenty-three were performed.

Mr. Walter Bull, of Messrs. Lacon and Ollier, concert agents, said that seventy-two performances were given at the Opera House, and fifty-seven of these comprised only seven operas.

Mr. Scott Fox (cross-examining): Mr. Hammerstein is an experienced manager?—Yes — in America.

And he came to England to do his best here?—Yes.

If his American experience fails him, that is to his disadvantage?—Yes.

His Lordship: You do not doubt that Mr. Hammerstein did what he regarded as being for the best?

Witness replied that he did not doubt that that was so.

The hearing was adjourned.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

The patrons of this popular East End house will certainly have nothing to regret for having visited the theatre this week, when Mr. Frank Bertram presented "Through Death Valley; or, The Mormon Peril," being a thrilling drama of Mormon life in Utah. The plot reveals some of the perils and terrorism to which females are subjected by the Mormon adherents, whilst the moral tone inspires reverence and awe. Briefly, the story is that of a prospector, who strikes a gold seam, and after he is murdered by the Mormons for his wealth, a miner, Jim Middleton, upholds the cause of his children, two girls, he being in love with the elder daughter, Bess. The successive struggles between Mormons and anti-Mormons contains a goodly element of tragedy, which is somewhat relieved by excellent and amusing by-play on the part of an Irish couple and their black servant. Calamity follows calamity, until the climax is reached in the last act, the curtain falling on a delightful love scene between Jim, the miner, and the old prospector's daughter, Bess.

Mr. P. Barry-Lewers as Jim Middleton was admirable in all respects, his acting and speaking being superb; whilst Arthur S. Pitt gave a powerful portrayal of the villainous elder of the Mormon church, Noah Catchpole. Mr. Frederick Goodwin as Jack Middleton was a little lacking in emotional force, and Mr. Frank Wheatley, as the friendly Indian chief, contributed a good character study. Mr. Frank Bertram and Miss Nellie V. Warden, as Mr. and Mrs. Pat Cahill, were exceedingly humorous as the Irish couple; whilst Mr. Peter H. Gardner as Jasper, the negro servant, can be best summed up in the words of a girl sitting behind me in the stalls, as a "funny little devil." Exceptionally brilliant was Miss Amy Hardcastle as Bess Hamilton, her portrayal having just that touch of pathos and quiet and effective sincerity necessary to a successful impersonation. Miss Winifred Haines was satisfactory as Florrie Hamilton, whilst the smaller parts were adequately filled, the management being in the hands of Mr. Ernest Metcalfe.

Included in the programme are Kitty Leon, a dainty comedienne and danseuse; Mr. Pat Lynch, a clever exponent of step dancing; and Ethel Pierce, a versatile comedienne; whilst the orchestra, under the bâton of their capable director, Mr. L. Maurice, give some excellent selections; and Mr. Maurice Abrahams, the genial manager, ably controls.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Mr. Cyril Cobb (chairman) presiding.

SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENTS.

Mr. E. Smallwood asked the Chairman of the Theatres Committee the following questions:—(1) Is it the intention of the Committee to submit to the Council a statement for the six months ending March 31, 1913, giving the following particulars—(a) A list of the societies which gave cinematograph entertainments on Sunday, and the places at which these were given; (b) the number of entertainments given, the gross receipts, the expenditure on rent, wages, and films, and the result to the societies? (2) If it is the intention to submit such statement, will he state at what date? (3) Having regard to the serious breaches of the licence in the case of Ladbroke Hall, reported in Saturday's press, will the Chairman take into consideration the advisability of again presenting to the Council the amendments of conditions proposed by his committee, and presented to the Council on Nov. 26, 1912? (4) If not, will the Committee give the Council an early opportunity of discussing the whole matter of the Sunday opening of picture theatres and shows?

Mr. H. J. Greenwood replied, as Mr. Stuart Sankey, the Chairman of the Theatres Committee, has resigned from the Council. He said in regard to questions 1 and 2 that he thought it would be the wish of the Committee that a statement giving particulars asked for should be prepared as in the past, and presented after Whitsuntide. As to questions Nos. 3 and 4 he said that in view of the decision of the Council on Jan. 21 that they saw no need to alter the existing position under which Sunday cinema performances were given, the Theatres Committee had not again considered the matter, and in regard to the Ladbroke Hall case he could not see that it had any bearing on the Council's policy.

ESTIMATES.

The greater part of the afternoon was occupied in the consideration of the estimates of expenditure on capital, and on rate and revenue accounts for the financial year, 1913-14. The estimates of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, amounting to £410, showed a small decrease in net expenditure of £65. They were passed without discussion.

QUARTERLY REPORT.

The quarterly report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee as to the action taken under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, which was brought up at the previous meeting, was now adopted.

The Council, at its rising, adjourned until June 3.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433 Central.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage or Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DRAYCOTT.—On Monday, May 5, at Alder House, Mount Pleasant, Batley, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott, a fine son. Both progressing splendidly.

DEATHS.

BOULTER.—May 5, Helen Boulter (Mrs. D'Oyly Carte).
HERCAT.—April 26, after a long illness, Professor Hercat, illusionist.
ROBINSON.—April 22, Riddell Robinson, actor.
SHEPARD.—April 23, Grove Burt Shepard, comedian, aged 58.

IN MEMORIAM.

BELMORE.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Paul. Never forgotten by his devoted "Pat" (Bessie Rignold).
BELMORE.—In loving memory of Paul Belmore. Never forgotten by J. F.
HUNT.—In loving memory of dear Maggie, who passed away May 6 1905. Never forgotten by her only sister, Violet Hunt. (R.I.P.)
MITCHELL.—In everlasting memory of my dearest sister, Victoria, who passed away May 3, 1911. So sadly missed by her loving sister, Annie. Always in my thoughts, dear Vic. Rest in peace.
MITCHELL.—In loving memory of our darling mother, who fell asleep May 3, 1911. Never forgotten by her son and daughters, Charlie, Doris and Elsie. Rest in peace, mamma, dear.
SCOTT.—In loving memory of Rebecca Scott, the beloved wife of the late Walter Scott, who died May 7, 1907. Deeply mourned and never forgotten by her loving son and daughter.
Ned and Lizzie Hanneford.
(Miss Lizzie Scott.)

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

April 2.—William Arthur Law, aged 69.
" 3.—Kittie Olive (Mrs. Tom Pilbeam).
" 6.—Little Johnnie Wynne, aged 69.
" 7.—William John Holloway.
" 9.—John Lister, aged 69.
" 11.—Elizabeth Fyne.
" 12.—Joseph John Dilley, aged 74.
" 16.—Mrs. Lily Heath.
" 16.—Beatrice Angela Pryce-Hamer.
" 17.—Barton M'Guckin, aged 60.
" 22.—Riddell Robinson.
" 23.—Grove Burt Shepard, aged 58.
" 24.—Henry Hughes Ashton, aged 4.
" 26.—Professor Hercat.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish the following ladies and gentlemen many happy returns of the day:—
Pollie Emery—Saturday, May 10.
Walter Passmore—Saturday, May 10.
Harry Mountford—Sunday, May 11.
Clara Earle—Monday, May 12.
Vesta Tilley—Tuesday, May 13.
Fred Durham—Tuesday, May 13.
Sir Squire Bancroft—Wednesday, May 14.
Hall Caine—Wednesday, May 14.
Carl Hertz—Wednesday, May 14.
Theo Mauritus—Thursday, May 15.
Mrs. Brown-Potter—Thursday, May 15.
Matheson Lang—Thursday, May 15.
Sir John Hare—Friday, May 16.
Ida Rene—Friday, May 16.

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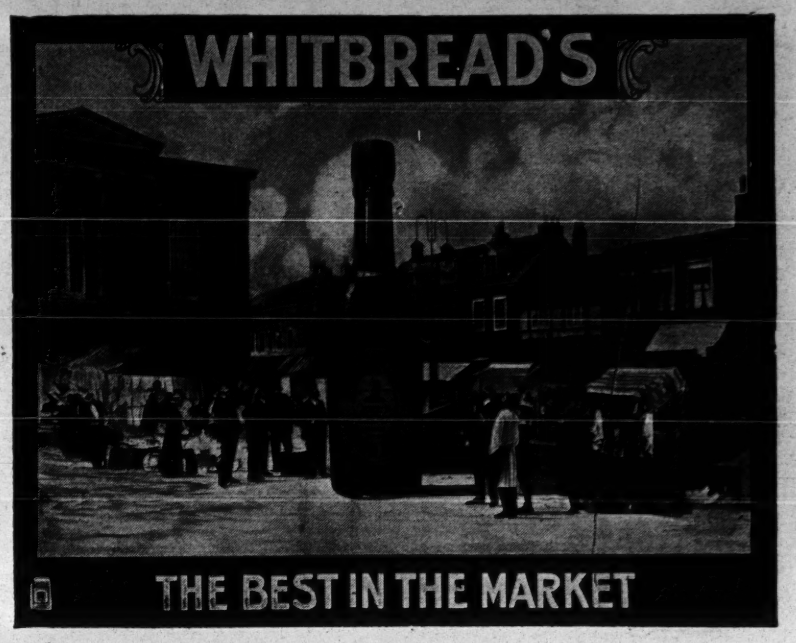
"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*



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"Drink and fear not."
—*Henry VI., Act ii., Scene iii.*

The Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, was filled to its utmost at a concert given by Hogarth's Entertainers recently, and a good programme was much appreciated by the audience, encores being prominent. The party consists of seven artistes, three ladies and four gentlemen, under the direction of Mr. Sidney Hogarth, and the success of the evening reflects great credit on his management. Mr. Herbert Smith, a capable light comedian, was heard to advantage in "Paree" and "Music hall Shakespeare"; Miss Ethel Waddilove, who has a good soprano voice, sang well "In sympathy" and "The slave song"; Mr. Edwin Cunningham's fine baritone voice was heard to advantage in "The blue dragoons" and "Drake goes West"; Miss Lily Armstrong, a very good comedienne, made a big success with her rendering of "Hello, Martha" and "Have you seen a little girl in brown?"; Mr. Fred Lawrence shows that he has a tenor voice of good quality, and his songs, "Dear love, remember me," and "Where my caravan has rested," were much appreciated. Mr. Sidney Hogarth is a good leader and a humorist with a capital style, and well deserved encores for "Bored to death" and "My word!" Duets (humorous) were given by Miss Lily Armstrong and Mr. Sidney Hogarth, and also Mr. Herbert Smith and Mr. Sidney Hogarth. A humorous trio, "Cuthbert, Clarence, and Claude," earned much applause as given by Messrs. Frederick Lawrence, Herbert Smith, and Sidney Hogarth. Miss Ethel Waddilove and Mr. Frederick Lawrence gave "The Miserere" scene from "Il Trovatore," which was much appreciated. Miss Amy Pritchard was an able pianiste, and her rendering of "Capricanti" fully deserved the applause it received.

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Jolley, James; Jarvis M.; Johnson, Mabel; Jene, Roma.
Korpe, J.
Leslie, Ivan Louise, Miss Ivy; Leach, Violet; Lancaster, H.; Latimer, P.; Lawson, Kenna. McDonagh, John; Montgomery, Robert; Melbourne, Nellie; Magratt, Joseph; Moulton, D.; Mircir, L.; Mandeville, J.; Mott, C. Lane; McKiernan, M.; Martin, Madge; M. H.; Mann, —; Millward, Miss; Melton, Cecil A.; Melton, Mrs. Cecil A.; Masterson, E. O'Shea, Cicely; Oliver, L.; Osmond, Fred; O'Shea, Ethel.
Powell, Miss M.C.; Power, George; Poole, F. C.; Purcell, O.; Palmer, F. Payne; Prior, J. Ryan, Hamilton; Ryce, Walter; Ruston, Lilian; Raymond, B. Robinson, H.; Ronagne, K.; Rainforth, Edith; Rignold, Marie; Ritchie, Gilbert; Room 14 (Marlboro' Theatre).
St. Maur, Geraldine; Simpson, Wilfred H.; Schrader, E.; Shephere, J.; Sinital, F.; Stanley, F.; Silvester, W. R.; Stigant, Arthur; Sealy, L., jun.; Silvester, Ralph.
Trieve, Richard; Tillotson, J.; Tillotson, C.; Two

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1913.

STAGE SHYLOCKS.

The treatment of the character of Shylock in "The Merchant of Venice" is a most magnificent proof of SHAKESPEARE'S genius. It is one of the characteristics of that quality that it arises above contemporary prejudice, and even dares to oppose it when opposition is demanded by justice. It has been said that SHAKESPEARE yielded to popular prejudice by representing Shylock as avaricious and vindictive. It would be more correct to say that he showed the natural consequences of oppression and insult on the worthy and self-respecting. It is only the naturally slavish natures who accept slavery resignedly. Few men are suited to the rôle of martyr; and there is an instinctive rebound under the pressure of scorn and unfairness which is regarded as rather commendable than blameable. Hamlet says: "I am lily-livered, and lack gall to make oppression bitter"; but he reproaches himself for it. The "Merchant of Venice" is a satire on merely nominal Christianity; and only the self-complacency of the Christian audiences before whom it was performed could have blinded them to the fact.

The Jews are the most courageous and pugnacious race in Europe, as they were the toughest and most ungovernable nation in the East. The disgusting insults of which SHAKESPEARE spares us the sight on the stage—the kicks, the spurnings, the spittings which Shylock speaks of, and Antonio owns to—would have justified an immediate demand for "satisfaction" in a so-called Christian of Venice. But even if Shylock had been a younger man he would have been mobbed and murdered before he could have drawn his sword on the alleged Christian who had "voided his rheum upon his beard." As it was, he is represented as an old man, past the fighting age. His only chance of retaliation is by trickery; and he takes it. The slippery, sickening cant with which Antonio evades the issue when Shylock "corners" him in an argument on the iniquity of money-lending, and the cynical brutality he shows when Shylock points out the inconsistency of being polite when you "want something" to a man whom you have been accustomed to load with cowardly insults, are a splendid satire on sixteenth-century humanity.

In order to make Shylock's case as strong as possible we must imagine him a Jew of the old Maccabean spirit, with a natural self-respect and strength of will which constantly rebelled against the treatment he received. There cannot be any stronger proof of the stupidity of eighteenth-century audiences as regards SHAKESPEARE than the fact that they applauded—or at any rate tolerated—the unspeakable adaptation of "The Merchant of Venice" by GEORGE GRANVILLE, Marquis of Lansdowne, which was produced at Lincoln's Inn Fields in 1701. It is monstrous, yet true, that in consequence of this horrible mutilation Shylock was regarded for forty years as a comic character, and was always represented with a red wig—the hall-mark of the low comedian.

In 1741 the misrepresentation of SHAKESPEARE was removed by MACKLIN, by whose courage and originality, we are told, "the Jew's private calamities were allowed to make some tender impressions on the audience." SHERIDAN played Shylock in 1754, and HENDERSON in 1877; and then in 1814 came EDMUND KEAN'S celebrated success in the part. "Drury Lane," we are told by a contemporary writer, "was empty of nearly all but critics and those who came in with orders; and the listlessness of the small, spiritless audience at the first night of a new Shylock was 'the languor which is not repose.' Then came on a small man with an Italian face and a fatal eye which struck all. Attention soon ripened into enthusiasm; and never, perhaps, did KEAN play with such startling effect as on this night to the surprised few. His voice was harsh, his style new, his action abrupt and angular; but there was the decision, the inspiration of genius in the look, the tone, the bearing; the hard, unbending Jew was before us in the full vigour of his malignity; the injuries upon him and upon his tribe saddened in his eyes; but through them you could trace the dark spirit of revenge, glaring in fearful unperishable fury."

We have not seen, and perhaps we are not likely to see in this generation, a reading of the part of Shylock pitched in this key. Revenge is an anachronism in an age of Christianity and genuine enlightenment. Our wrongs are less, and the revolt against them consequently weaker; if we are not more forgiving at any rate we are more politic. It is difficult for us to take "The Merchant of Venice" seriously; if we did we should be disgusted. The credulity of Antonio in signing to such a dangerous bond with a man whom he has made a bitter enemy by his insults is incredible; and the suggestion of the dissecting-room in the fourth act, with the villain of the play actually eager to perform a fatal operation which would reduce the Court to the semblance of a common shambles, would be sickening if we really believed in it. At a time when burning alive was a public spectacle, and hanging, drawing and quartering not an unusual one, there was nothing to shock an audience in this bloodthirsty invention; and nothing can make it even plausible but the expression of an intensity of hatred in the representative of the Jew which suggests monomania. The modern tendency is to try and win sympathy for Shylock by civilising him. This was the view of the part taken by the late HENRY IRVING, and taken more or less by Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON at Drury Lane on Monday. To us the modern method seems rather to make Shylock more detestable. The only excuse for him is his possession of an animalism and a brutal thirst for his enemy's blood, which is more or less eliminated from our modern Shylock's natures. The more calm and reflective, mild-in-manner, and gentlemanly you make the Jew—instead of making him "see red" and become maddened by the vision—the more you assimilate him to the cold, pitiless, scientific cruelty of the calculator. We always found it difficult to believe in the pound of flesh demand of IRVING'S Shylock. We could have believed in his revengefulness, but not in its taking that particular form. The Jews have always been a powerfully vital nation. Their energy is enormous, and they are the healthiest, and, consequently the most animal, of races. There is a voluptuousness in the method of Shylock's revenge, in the idea of seeing "the red blood flow" and his enemy wincing under the slashes of the knife, which would only be conceived by a man with the primitive instincts unweakened by a gentle civilisation and a humane creed, and untamed by generations of merciful public opinion. The main motif of "The Merchant of Venice" is as much an anachronism nowadays as the tearing out of Gloster's eyes *coram publico* in "King Lear"; and the play really holds its ground because we do not really believe in it, because we are so familiar with its story that it has ceased to startle us, and because the leading character is ingeniously altered to suit the altered conditions of the age.

MOLIERE-STRAUSS COMEDY-OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—I shall be glad if you will afford me an opportunity of making public the precise facts as to the production of Dr. Strauss' opera in connection with Molière's comedy of "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme."

Fate is full of coincidences. More than a year ago I invited Mr. Somerset Maugham, the dramatist, to do an English version of Molière's master-work, "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme." To this proposal Mr. Maugham gave his ready assent and chose for his title "The Perfect Gentleman." Molière's comedy has, I believe, never been played publicly in England except by the late Monsieur Coquelin, so long associated with the Comedie Francaise. It was my intention to play the part of M. Jourdain, of which Molière himself was the original impersonator at the Court of Louis XIV.

Meantime, Dr. Richard Strauss had been diverting himself by composing the incidental music to a German version of "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme," to which he added an opera called "Ariadne in Naxos," the libretto of which was written by the German dramatist, Hugo von Hofmannsthal. The opera was to be a sort of musical epilogue to be presented by Monsieur Jourdain to his guests at the conclusion of the play.

This delicious outrage on Molière's classic met with an enthusiastic reception on its first performance at the State Theatre in Stuttgart in October last. The capital of Wurtemberg was for this occasion invaded by music lovers from all parts of the globe, and it was my good fortune to witness several of the representations of the combined comedy-opera.

Mr. Thomas Beecham and the manager of His Majesty's Theatre became rivals for the acquisition of this work. The victory being with Mr. Beecham, he proposed that we should combine our forces, with the result that I shall have the honour of producing the comedy-opera in conjunction with Mr. Beecham, who will be responsible for its musical side, and for this purpose he has been so fortunate as to secure the services of the most distinguished German singers; while the manager and the company of His Majesty's Theatre will enact the comedy, the part of Dorimene being undertaken by Miss Phyllis Terry. The production will be on an appropriately elaborate scale. The first representation is fixed for Tuesday, May 27.

I need hardly say that I consider it a great privilege to be associated in this Molière-Strauss enterprise with the enthusiastic young musician who has already rendered such distinguished service to the music-loving public.—Yours faithfully,

HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE.

THE LATE MRS. D'OYLY CARTE.

BY THE EDITOR.

"It seems as if the Old Guard were falling one by one," wrote Mrs. D'Oyly Carte to me a year or two ago when I was suffering from an illness. And now she has gone herself. The keen brain is, at last, at rest; the kind heart has ceased to beat. The indomitable activity of mind which the habitude of hard work had engendered in Mrs. Carte, and which clung to her long after there was any necessity for her to labour, may have had something to do with her decease; but I rather believe that it was not by any means the prime cause of it. There is a saying that "millstones when they have nothing to grind, grind each other," and I am sure that it was only having work to do, and business to attend to, that kept Mrs. Carte alive so long. The real trial must have come in the wearisome period of actual prostration which preceded her death; but I hope that it was dulled by the very weakness of exhaustion.

Well do I remember the slight figure, the large, dreamy, depthful eyes of the little lady in a fur-lined cloak who came to D'Oyly Carte's agency offices in Craig's-court to get work of some kind. I happened to be with Carte when she called, and in my youthful *insouciance* took no particular notice of her. But D'Oyly Carte, with his Napoleonic estimate of individuals, was more discerning. "That's a clever little girl, Desprez," he said to me; "a very clever little girl. I shall make something of her." And he did; he made her his consultant, his co-worker, and his wife.

Her character exactly compensated for the deficiencies in his. D'Oyly Carte was a man of ideas and impulses, of violent fits of work and ardent periods of enjoyment, and he was rather untidy, at any rate at Craig's-court. There is a story, for the truth of which I will not vouch, that Miss Lenoir, as she called her elf at the time, asked, on her second or third visit, that she might be allowed to arrange the papers at his office at Craig's-court, and that in half an hour she had evolved order from chaos.

Her Industry.

The name, by the by, was not exactly an assumed one. I have before me a letter of D'Oyly Carte's, dated April 19, 1888, in which he says: "Lenoir was the original name of her family, who were French; when they settled in Scotland about 140 years ago they translated the name into Black, and have borne that name since. The addition of Couper was adopted on a marriage with the Couper family. When Miss Lenoir went into business she adopted the old family name."

One gift of greatness she had: she could "toil terribly." She appeared to be absolutely independent of exercise, and she really enjoyed the detail and drudgery of a scheme. There was something weird and supernatural to me, always yearning for fresh air, in this cheerful self-imprisonment in an office, but to Mrs. Carte it "came quite natural." Not that she was a mere machine. Fatigue never impaired the clearness of her brain; and after attending to a mass of detail and dictating hundreds of letters, she would be ready at one o'clock in the morning for the very sharpest consideration of a business proposal or the terms of a contract. She never took advantage of anybody; but I never heard of her letting anybody take advantage of her.

With this extraordinary appetite for work, and this great gift of diplomacy, were joined a most womanly sweetness and gentleness. You felt that she saw through you like a glass, and could probably outwit you; but you felt also that, from kindness of nature, not weakness, she would not do you any injury. And there was a mystery about her; you could never tell what she thought, and she was too clever a woman to wear her heart upon her sleeve. She was a daughter of George Couper Black, Procurator Fiscal for Wigtownshire and a nephew of Sir George Couper, who was on the Duke of Wellington's staff throughout the Peninsular War, and subsequently held the position of Chief Equerry to the Duchess of Kent. She was privately educated, and was especially proficient in the higher branches of mathematics; and I remember her telling me once that she and her father used to walk up and down their garden talking Latin, and, I believe, Greek, almost conversationally. On entering at the London University, which had just opened its doors to women for the examination, then equivalent to the one now held for the B.A. degree, she passed at the head of the list of successful candidates.

Her Career.

Mrs. Black, after the death of her husband, emigrated to Australia, taking with her the remainder of the family. Miss Black then took up the profession of education, coaching scholars for examination. Then she thought of the stage, and took lessons in elocution, dancing, and singing from Mr. Coe, of the Haymarket, and others. But she was not of the stuff of which artists are made; and after a short engagement in a company of which Charles Wyndham was a member and an appearance in Dublin as a robin in a pantomime of the late Michael Gunn's, she "found herself" as a woman of business. Her tact and gentleness were often exerted to pour oil on the troubled waters at the Savoy, in smoothing down the little differences between Mr. D'Oyly Carte and Sir W. S. Gilbert. She had a marvellous grasp of official and technical details, as well as a perfect genius for the running of tours. She was the means of saving enormous sums to the Savoy by applying business methods to the theatre. Her greatest success, however, was in tracking down "pirates." The Savoy operas were being pirated wholesale, more especially in the United States. She took prompt measures to prevent this form of theft, and in this connection made seventeen trips to America. She was married to Mr. Carte in 1888, and as his health declined and he became practically an invalid, she became sole manageress at the Savoy. She superintended the English tours of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and took an active part in the American production of those pieces. She organised and superintended the lecturing tours in the United States of H. M. Stanley, Archibald Forbes, Matthew Arnold, Serjeant Ballantine, Bret Harte, and Oscar Wilde, and was responsible for many novelties and improvements in the plan of the Savoy Hotel. In 1900 a representative committee of London managers was formed, consisting of Sir C. Wyndham, Sir Herbert Tree, Sir George Alexander, Mr. George Edwardes, the late Mr. Edward Terry, and others, for the purpose of commissioning a celebrated artist to paint a portrait in oils of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte for presentation to her as a tribute to her great services to theatrical art. But Mrs. Carte asked that the sum collected should be given to found a bed at the Children's Hospital in Great Ormond-street on behalf of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Last year twenty-five managers of provincial and suburban theatres presented Mrs. Carte with a testimonial bound in vellum and framed. It congratulated her—the words sound sadly now—on her "complete return to health"; and it was signed by Messrs. H. Robertson, Langdon Lee, John Hart, Robert Redford, J. M. Chute, Charles Hyland, F. W. Broughton, T. H. Birch, Dudley Bennett, J. F. Graham, J. F. Elliston, Milton Bode, W. B. Redfern, C. C. Dorrill, J. R. Huddlestone, J. Richeux, J. F. Warden, E. Lewis, Fred Fredericks, A. Carlton, Robert Arthur, George Morton, J. B. Mulholland, and Howard and Wyndham.

After the death of D'Oyly Carte, Mrs. Carte, in May, 1902, became the wife of Mr. Stanley Carr Boulter, the well-known barrister and financier.

Mrs. Carte was intensely fond of dogs. A great favourite of hers was a fine bull terrier, which, after its death in the natural course of things, was stuffed, and stood in her house in Adelphi-terrace. Another canine pet named "Trap" was buried in the garden of Mr. Carte's house at Weybridge, and a pretty tomb erected over its remains. When Mr. Carte's heart grew so weak that a lift was installed in Adelphi-terrace to take him from floor to floor, it contained a notice that it was strictly reserved for Mr. Carte, Mrs. Carte, and Trap. The devotion to work, both of Mrs. Carte and D'Oyly Carte, was extreme. Even when travelling by train on a supposed holiday, they were always sending off telegrams from the principal stations. I remember once, with the idea of detaching them for a day or two from the cares of business, coaxing Mr. and Mrs. Carte to accompany me on an excursion across the New Forest. We started from Lyndhurst, and made our way to Ringwood on foot. Mrs. Carte riding a pony which had been hired at the hotel. There were no telegraph offices in the forest; and as we lost our way several times, and had a narrow escape from a viper, they were really diverted for a day at least from the cares of business. Mrs. Carte's own tastes were extremely simple. She always grudged the time required for trying on a dress; and she was most abstemious in eating and drinking. Her generosity was as great as it was secret. No genuine tale of distress in the profession ever reached her ears without her relieving it; and the tact and sympathy with which she accompanied the gift doubled its value. She had

"A tear of pity, and a hand
Open as day for melting charity."

The funeral took place on Friday at Golder's Green; but it was asked that only the nearest relatives should be present. The cremation was concluded by twelve o'clock, in the presence of only about twenty people. Wreaths were sent by Lady Jane Gathorne-Hardy, Mrs. Ronalds, Mrs. Michael Gunn, Cecile Countess Cranbrook, the staff of the Savoy Restaurant, and several members of the Carte family.

THE LATE MRS. D'OYLY CARTE.

THE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL.

On Monday the Shakespeare Festival was continued with a performance of

"HAMLET."

From every point of view it was interesting and successful. Mr. Frank Benson gave a very human, poetic, and straightforward reading of the rôle of Prince of Denmark. He skilfully indicated Hamlet's brain activity, his assumed insanity, and his temporary physical lethargy. There were occasions when Mr. Benson hurried his delivery, and was at times inaudible; but these were rare. Mr. Moffat Johnston as Claudius spoke his lines well and to the point. Mr. Frank Cochrane gave an original and curious performance as Polonius. Mr. Murray Carrington was suited in every way to the part of Horatio, and supplied a manly and sincere portrayal of the character. The Laertes of Mr. Ambrose Flower had all the impetuosity and energy required. Mr. F. Randle Ayrton played the Ghost in a thorough and careful manner. Mr. Harry Caine's First Gravedigger was one of his best impersonations. Miss Marion Foreman had made a careful study of Gertrude, and was remarkably good in the Closet scene. The Ophelia of Miss Ethel McDowall was a delightfully sympathetic reading, full of tender appeal and womanly charm, and distinguished by soft diction and clear delivery. Mr. Frank Reynolds was excellent as the Priest, and the First Player of Mr. Rupert Conrick was a capital piece of work. The Second and Third Players of Mr. James Stanners and Miss Nora Nicholson were sound performances. Miss Rosa Burgess was good as the Player Queen, and Messrs. Mark Turner and Frank Matthews are to be commended for their portrayals of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, Mr. Walter Plinge being an excellent Osric. Messrs. Harry Caine, James Stanners, and Darby Foster successfully filled the parts of Marcellus, Bernardo, and Francisco.

On Wednesday afternoon, at the Memorial Theatre, with Miss Nancy Price as Chorus, "Henry the Fifth" was acted by the boys of Shakespeare's School (King Edward VI.'s Grammar School), Stratford, amongst the audience being Mr. and Mrs. Benson, Miss Marie Corelli, Mr. A. D. Flower, Canon Melville, and Miss Elinor Aickin.

On Wednesday was revived

"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

An enthusiastic gathering assembled to welcome Mrs. Benson, and the calls before the curtain were plenteous, and many floral tributes were made to the principals at the close. Both Mr. and Mrs. Benson were in fine form. Mr. Benson's dashing and indomitable Petruchio was a delight. Mrs. Benson gave a nicely adjusted and well-restrained rendering of Katherina, full of subtle touches and keen perceptions. Mr. William Calvert's Baptista was admirable. Mr. Murray Carrington played Lucentio with grace and distinction, Vincentio being safely entrusted to Mr. Rupert Conrick. Mr. Moffat Johnston gave a neat sketch of old Gremio. Miss Ethel McDowall was a graceful and sympathetic Bianca. Miss Marion Foreman was excellent as a widow. Mr. Ambrose Flower hit off with ability the character of Hortensio, and the parts of the Pedant and the Tailor were capably enacted by Messrs. John Maclean and Mark Turner; and Tranio and Biondello had able representatives in Mr. Reginald Goode and Mr. Frank Cochrane. The Grumio of Mr. Harry Caine was a masterpiece of humour, and the Curtis of Miss Rosa Burgess was capital. Walter, Nathaniel, and Sugar Sop were creditably played by Messrs. Darby Foster, Oswald Roberts, and Frank Matthews.

On Tuesday, at the annual meeting of the birthplace trustees, Sir Sidney Lee reported that the aggregate number of visitors to the birthplace during the year was 42,362, an increase of 874, and to Anne Hathaway's cottage 26,521, an increase of 424.

Lecturing in the afternoon, Mr. F. R. Benson said that Shakespeare was never more alive than at this moment, and he would like them to consider what it was that made him alive now and for ever—that made him the representative genius of the Anglo-Celtic people. Though he sang so far ahead that only some of the greatest minds were able to listen to the full measure of his song, yet, at the same time, even the simplest and the humblest obtained some of the sweetness of it. He did not know any of the great ones of the earth whose work reached so many life-vibrations in so many different spheres.

Whether in architecture, science, art, politics, ethics, athletics, agriculture, or natural history, Shakespeare had taught some of the experts in those particular branches of human activity. Then one asked, "What is it that made the song of Shakespeare go on vibrating to the end of time, to the uttermost limits of the earth, with full measure of a strong love-story?" One wished that one could get beyond the trammels of mere words to the music of the raindrop in the trees, or the nightingale—the descendant of the nightingale that sang to Shakespeare and inspired his song.

THE COMEDIE FRANCAISE.

"The other day," writes our Paris correspondent, "I read in a London publication an article on the Comédie-Francaise wherein it was stated that Molière was the only actor who ever managed the 'House.' The writer of that notice made a mistake, for he will find that a certain Lockroy, an ex-actor, figures on the list of 'Directeurs' of the Comédie-Française. It is true that he only held that post during one year. Messieurs les Sociétaires must feel happy. Last year has proved a very good one for the 'House,' and every Sociétaire will receive for his 'full share' 27,000 francs (£1,080). Unfortunately the Sociétaires never feel happy—on principle. They always grumble, and every year they trot out another grievance. The public, however, does not take them seriously, and very rightly think that a Sociétaire has precious little to complain of. A member of the Comédie-Française is supposed to devote all his time and energy to the good of the house. Let me give you an instance how this rule is observed. M. Raphaël Duflos—an able actor, like most of them—is the manager of the Royal Theatre at Ghent, and manages it, I am told, very well. One of his colleagues, M. Dessonnes, is at the head of a theatre at Liége, and when either of them wants an actor or actress at a moment's notice they coolly take one belonging to the 'House,' whose services are not required at that moment. It sounds like a farce, yet I assure you that it is honest truth.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

VARIETY GOSSIP

When Mr. John Lawson produces "Disraeli" at the Metropolitan, May 26, he himself will play the title-rôle; Mr. C. W. Somerset will be the Aguillar Montana; Mr. Henry Ludlow will be seen in the part of Sir Rupert Marsden; and Miss Lucille Sydney has been engaged for the part of Freda Montana. The play will be in two scenes, the first at the house of Montana, and the second on Lord Beaconsfield's estate.

La Tortajada, otherwise Mme. Consuela Tortajada, the famous Spanish denseuse, was the defendant in an action heard in the London Sheriff's Court, before Under-Sheriff Burchell, on Thursday. Plaintiffs were the Cork Opera House Company, Ltd., and damages were claimed for breach of contract. The jury awarded plaintiffs £300 damages and costs.

After many years Mr. Bransby Williams was put into last week's bill at the Palace Theatre, where his success was enormous. The house rang with laughter as skit after skit in "The One Man Revue" went home. The Palace has a special atmosphere; it has also an audience keenly critical, sometimes cold; but when pleased it is highly appreciative and warm. Both artiste and audience enjoyed a pleacant experience.

Pavlova, who is to take the chair at the Incorporated Stage Society's annual dinner on May 18 at the Criterion Restaurant, has arranged to include in the Whitsuntide programme at the Palace next week two additional dances, which must be ranked with the chief triumphs of her career. These are the "Variations" of Chopin and the exquisite "Coquetteries de Columbine" of Drigo, which, it will be recalled, aroused great enthusiasm during her season last year. Other numbers in which Mme. Pavlova will be seen are "La Nuit" (Rubinstein), the "Bacchanale," and, of course, the beautiful "Preludes" of Liszt. These in addition to the various divertissements in which her company will join.

Mr. Alfred Butt presents, for the first time, at the Palace, on Monday, an original monologue, entitled "Just in Time," by Graham Jones, in which Mr. Sam Walsh will appear. When the piece was produced early in the month at the Court, with Mr. Walsh as the elevated reveller, he made a hit, and he should repeat his success in Shaftesbury-avenue. Mr. Walsh as a single entertainer has not yet had a real chance to show his comic resourcefulness on the variety stage. We have, however, pleasant recollections of his versatility in an American sketch, "Town Hall To-night," in which he played the piano, and played it well.

A large audience at the Empire on Tuesday evening hailed the return of the incomparable Kyasht, who made her reappearance at that popular house, after a most successful tour on the Continent. For her rentrée she presented a new ballet interlude, which was introduced into the successful revue, "All the Winners." It is a dainty, idyllic thing, which once more interests us in the immortal love of Harlequin for Columbine. Their terpsichorean coquetting and pirouetting are watched by pierrots. Lydia's dancing is a delight, and she is ably assisted by M. Pierre Vladimiroff.

Mr. Oswald Stoll, by his production of the revue from the Ba-Ta-Clan, Paris, at the Middlesex on Monday, has not only forged another link in the golden chain of the entente cordiale, but again emphasises his belief in the revue à la française as a form of entertainment that is specially suited to the atmosphere of the London music halls. In the older days of the Coliseum, when he was bound by the narrow restrictions of the obsolete licensing system—now happily passed away—Mr. Stoll made a brave attempt at giving an English revue, and so that it should be modelled on the Boulevard pattern he secured M. Victor de Cottens, a popular Parisian revue expert, of the Folies-Bergère and the Chatelet, to collaborate with Mr. Arthur Shirley, and the result was an excellent topical, sociological, and satirical hotch-potch.

There was a series of scenes illustrating the events of the year in a light, comic vein; political and social crazes were parodied, and in order to be abreast of the entente cordiale an international character was given to the production by a scene in Paris, with a typical illustration of a mid-Lent carnival. We remember it as an exhilarating production, and mention it now, when so much is being said and written about the hybridisation—if we may use the word—of the revue in this country. The Coliseum revue was certainly worthy of a better fate: it was a bit too previous—that was its only fault.

Mr. Charles Austin, King Rat, was awarded £120 damages in the King's Bench Division on Thursday against the London County Council for damage to his motor car, which was caught between two tramway cars one foggy night in the Camberwell New-road. The defendants denied liability. There was no claim for personal injuries. Mr. Austin, giving evidence, said he was in the habit of using two motor cars, and was forced by the accident to hire another car.

Mr. Walsh (cross-examining): When I go to a place of amusement I go by omnibus.—Mr. Austin: Oh, yes, but we have to live up to things a bit. (Laughter.)—Mr. Walsh: But take his lordship, for instance. One might have seen his lordship stepping off an omnibus.—Mr. Austin: Ah, well, his lordship —— (Laughter.)—Mr. Walsh: Does not have to live up to it. (Laughter.)

Later in the day Mr. Justice Lush said: "The Associate has just told me what Mr. Walsh said, probably by way of a joke, about me getting out of an omnibus. I did not catch what he said. I think he is quite mistaken, and I do not think he has ever seen me doing anything of the kind." No evidence was called for the defendants, and as his lordship had left the court judgment was not entered.

There will be ten performances of "Come Over Here" at the London Opera House next week, a special matinée being given on Monday afternoon in addition to those on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday. One outstanding feature is that society has found its way to the palatial building in Kingsway, many of the best known people in London being at every performance. An important part in the revue has been found for Mr. J. F. McArdle, and Miss Clara Beck, a favourite principal boy at pantomime time, is singing a new number, "On the Mississippi," and other songs.

For the Whitsun Holiday at the Coliseum Max Reinhardt's fantastic wordless play, "Sumurun," will remain as the principal attraction, while in addition to Albert Chevalier and Marie Studholme in a comedy, "Her Ladyship," and John Harrison, the operatic and concert tenor, there will also be seen Will Evans in his laughable burlesque, "Harnessing a Horse"; Marie Novello, the brilliant pianist; Belloni's Cockatoos, in amusing and clever feats; Edith Fink, comedienne; Richardson Taylor, the whistling ventriloquist; and new Kinemacolor films.

To benefit the funds of the Cardiff City A.F.C. and to celebrate its promotion to the first division a most successful matinée was given at the Cardiff Empire last Saturday. The entertainers included the company engaged for the week, with Mark Sheridan, Jack Thomas, and the Rhondda Male Choir as extras.

After the matinée the result was announced of the watch-guessing competition organised by the supporters of the Cardiff City Club some months ago. The sealed box containing the watch was unfastened on Saturday morning by ex-Alderman Robert Hughes, and the time at which the watch had stopped was found to be 10h. 20m. 54secs. The holder of the winning ticket was Miss Ruby McCormick, a member of Herbert Darnley's sketch company in "Enquire Within," appearing at the Cardiff Empire last week.

At the conclusion of the performance Councillor Chas. Wall presented Mr. H. J. Taylor, on behalf of the Cardiff City Club, with a gold-mounted umbrella suitably inscribed, as a token of their appreciation of his invaluable services in connection with the matinée. The house was lent free by Moss' Empires, Ltd.

Mr. Cecil Morton York, who has been secured by Moss' Empires, Ltd., is playing at the Liverpool Olympia his original part of General Ivanoff in "Siberia," reproduced by Mr. Frank Parker on Monday. This sensational water melodrama was first given at the London Hippodrome in 1900, and it inaugurated a series of remarkable mechanical stage effects, ingeniously woven into stories of real dramatic interest, and in these productions Mr. York bore a chief part for years.

Dr. Walford Bodie made his reappearance in London last Monday at Collins's, and, judging by his great reception, has again come to stay. He has nightly held the stage for over one hour and a quarter, and both in his great electro-hypnotic act and his marvellous ventriloquial sketch, he has been recalled again and again. He goes next week with his own company to the Palace, Maidstone, and returns again to London, opening for one week at the Imperial Palace, Canning Town.

After months of unexampled success in the States, where he has entertained in every town of importance, Harry Lauder opened at the Tivoli on Monday, and experienced a reception such as would have gladdened the heart of a statesman. He was in particularly good fettle, and was evidently glad to be once more among his Sassenach friends, and to greet them at the footlights of his favourite hall. Harry introduced two new songs, "The Portobello lass," a distinct acquisition to his répertoire, and "It's nicer to lie in bed." There was the customary furore at the finish of his turn, and nothing was wanting to make it a typical Tivoli night.

Mr. Henry Bedford writes:—"In your Manchester critic's kindly and generous notice of my little sketch, "A Fairy Story," produced at the Tivoli, Manchester, last week, he describes me as the late author. As this might set some of my friends thinking I had pegged out—a matter of sorrowing or rejoicing, according to circumstances—will you permit me to state, through the columns of your valuable journal, that I am still 'alive and kicking.'"

An important engagement for next week at the London Opera House is that of Madame Kavetska, a Polish lady of remarkable personal attractions, who sings and whistles to her own pianoforte accompaniments. This is Madame Kavetska's English début. It is claimed for the lady, who is a prima donna at the Imperial Opera House, Warsaw, and the Palace Theatre, St. Petersburg, that so high a degree of excellence in both singing and whistling has never before been combined in one person.

After a series of farewell performances from May 12 to May 17, the Palace, Manchester, will close its doors preparatory to extensive reconstruction in order to establish on its site a more modern and luxurious house. We have often heard of the Manchester School in the political world, but less is known down south of the Manchester kill-joys—rabit teetotalers and hell-fire purists. A wave of churlish and morose Chadbandism seemed to engulf the city fathers when the question of the licensing of the Palace came up in 1891, and everything that was possible to narrow-minded sectarianism was done to throttle enterprise; but the "vox populi" soon asserted itself, and the favouring breeze of popular favour has done the rest. The newer and larger Palace will be built from the plans of Mr. Bertie Crewe, who has designed no fewer than sixty amusement houses, including the London Opera House.

The Oxford announces attractions for Whitsun week: Wilkie Bard in a new song, A. W. Baskcomb in "The Staff Dinner," the Texas Tommy Dancers, the Fitzgerald Dancing Girls, the McNaughtons in a fresh outburst, Ernie Mayne, Alec Kendal, the Miles Stavordale Quintette, Cullen and Carthy, and Alexander's Rag-Time Band.

Harry Tate will be one of the stars shining at Chelsea on Tuesday, June 3, the date of the Actors' Orphanage Garden Party. Harry is a popular man with theatricals, evidently. The best criterion of such popularity is the continual introduction of his name in revues and even plays. Robert Hale's several impersonations in "Eightpence a Mile," at the Alhambra include him as the protagonist of that perennial laughter maker, "Motoring." One touch of sport makes the stage world "chummy."

The death occurred at Buxton early on Wednesday morning of Mr. F. T. Boucher, general manager and secretary to The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd. The deceased gentleman, who occupied an official position at the London Crystal Palace, was appointed secretary and manager to the Buxton Gardens Company about twelve months ago, he succeeding Mr. Arthur Willoughby.

Mr. George Gilbert has taken to Yarmouth for the present week one of the most sensational animal acts that has been seen there for years. We refer to the visit of Miss Ella, who on the present occasion brings with her the novel attraction, entitled "Besieged by Lions." The scene is laid near a bungalow in Rhodesia, and with all its surroundings of forest and desert the act is exceedingly interesting. The stage is well protected, and everything is done to make it perfectly safe. Sensationalism naturally plays a part, but as each of Miss Ella's assistants is a highly capable animal trainer, there is no risk run. The performance has proved highly successful, and the act is bound to attract full houses anywhere.

A Conservatoire of Dancing and Miming is being established at the London Opera House, under the direction of Theodore Kosloff, the distinguished Russian dancer, who is responsible for the creation and direction of the Rose D'Ispahan ballet in "Come Over Here." Mr. Kosloff realises that the time has arrived when facilities for training in dancing and miming should be on an equal footing to those for music. The Continental capitals are all provided with conservatoires for dancing, but London is without one. It is Mr. Kosloff's intention to repair the omission at the London Opera House.

As our readers are well aware, Mr. Fred Karno has been devoting some of his "spare time"—quotes, Mr. Printer, please—to the establishment of a palace by the "fair marge of the Thames." It is a hotel and concert pavilion combined, and sounds the last note of luxury. It takes the place of Tagg's Island Hotel, but everyone hopes that the Karsino, as it is called, will do much more than that.

Mr. Fred McAvoy has held a managerial position in more halls than any other man we know. We remember him at the Canterbury, the South London, the Euston, and East Ham, and now his valuable services have been transferred to the Palace, Watford. In his place has been appointed Mr. John M. Hay, who comes to East Ham from the Coliseum, Glasgow. Mr. Hay will be remembered as Captain Katana in that very popular musical play, "The Geisha."

On the eve of her departure for South Africa, Miss Irene Dillon had a tempting offer from the Hippodrome management to play Miss Ethel Levey's part in "Hullo, Rag-time," on tour. Cables were despatched to South Africa, and arrangements were completed in time for Miss Dillon to see the performance of the revue on last Saturday night at Glasgow, and on Monday she opened at Newcastle and made a tremendous hit.

Our readers will learn with regret that Mr. Nelson Francis, the popular manager of the Empress Theatre of Varieties at Brixton, is confined to his bed with a cevere attack of pleurisy and bronchitis. One of the most courteous of managers, especially to representatives of the Press, we join with his many friends in wishing him a very speedy restoration to health and strength. The managerial chair at the Empress is being occupied pro tem. by Mr. George B. Andrews, of the Chelsea Palace. Mr. Leslie Conroy, manager of the Hammersmith Palace, is also on the sick list.

Miss Millie Payne, who has just concluded twelve weeks' run at all the principal halls in London, has left to fulfil a six weeks' starring provincial tour, commencing this week at the Empire, Chatham. Her famous "Waltz" scena still calls forth uproarious laughter and applause, and her "Miss Malaprop" character is a revelation in make-up and wholesome original patter. In all probability Miss Payne will be seen in the autumn in a West End theatre in a new farce that has been written round her.

A splendid company of favourite artistes have kindly promised to appear in the variety entertainment at the Vaudeville Palace on the occasion of the Theatrical Garden Party, to be held in the Royal Hospital Gardens, Chelsea, on Tuesday, June 3. Among those who have up to now consented to perform are: Marie Lloyd, Nora Delaney, Gertie Gitana, Jen Latona, Helen Mar and Ella Retford, also Wilkie Bard, Two Bobs, Paul Cinquevalli, Chas. Coborn, Neil Kenyon, Jock McKay, Dave Samuels, Harry Tate and company, Clarice Mayne and J. W. Tate, the McNaughtons, Franklyn Bellamy, and Morton and Bowman.

The Pandemonium Minstrels will include, besides some of the above, Martin Adeson, Edwin Barwick, Harry Blake, T. C. Callaghan, Harry Freeman, Arthur Gallimore, Ken Gallimore, H. A. Gribben, H. A. Griffitns, Billy Hobbs, Arthur Reece, Chas. Ridgwell, and A. W. Verno. Mr. Joe Wilson, of the Tivoli, has kindly offered his valuable assistance, and has been asked to manage the variety entertainment; while Mr. Edwin Barwick and Mr. H. A. Gribben will supervise the minstrel show. The entire performance at the Vaudeville Palace will be under the direction of Mr. Barwick and Mr. C. Douglas Stuart. Tickets for admission to the Gardens (price 3s. each) can be obtained on application to the last-named, at 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

We regret to announce the death of Miss Agnes Hazel, who passed away on Thursday at her residence, Thurleigh, Talfourd-road, Peckham. In the eighties and nineties the deceased lady was a popular serio at the London halls, and married Mr. Michael Nolan, an Irish comedian, who also won a considerable reputation before Hibernian humour went out of fashion at the music halls. Miss Hazel was only 45. She will be laid to rest on Tuesday in Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting, the funeral cortège leaving Talfourd-road, Peckham-road, S.E., at 1.15 p.m. It is due to arrive at the place of interment at 2.30 p.m. The funeral arrangements are in the hands of Mr. W. R. Dunkley.

Mr. Fred W. Wood, proprietor of the City Varieties music hall, the Queen's Theatre, and the Scarborough Hotel, Leeds, died on Thursday morning. He had been in failing health for more than a year, and about a month ago he had a relapse, and was obliged to take to his bed. Since then he had gradually become worse, and pneumonia set in. Mr. Wood, who was about 57 years of age, was well known to the Leeds public long before he had any proprietorial interests in the City Varieties and the Queen's Theatre.

In August, 1898, he purchased the City Varieties, and it was opened under the new régime on Oct. 31, 1898. He next became interested in the Queen's Theatre, Holbeck. The house was leased for a time from Messrs. Dottridge and Longden by Mr. Walter de Frece, who ran a variety entertainment there. In 1907 Mr. Wood purchased the theatre and continued the music hall business until Oct. 31, 1910, when a reversion was made to drama with excellent results.

Miss Helena Millais is producing on Whit Monday "The Creole," a sketch in which she will play the picturesque title-rôle. The piece is written by Mr. Leon M. Lion, the author of the highly successful "The Touch of the Child." "The Creole" is in one scene.

Burglars visited the Cranworth Gardens flat of Miss Diana Hope and stole two suit cases full of her stage wardrobe. An amber and steel dress was amongst the missing property, also some paste jewellery, shoes, stockings, and a shawl. The larger of the suit cases was subsequently discovered in the stairway of St. George's Dwellings, St. George's-road. Mr. Monte Bayly lost, amongst other things, a new wig (old man), by Messrs. Rayne. Should any of these articles be offered for sale a communication to the flat or to Brixton Police Station will be greatly appreciated.

A production that is causing a flutter in the vaudeville world this week will be produced by Miss Dora Poole at the Tottenham Palace on Monday next. Miss Poole has engaged a company of well-known American artistes, and it promises to be one of the best produced minstrel shows yet seen on the halls. Under the title of the "Mississippi Minstrels," it includes, besides Miss Poole, such well-known artistes as Sammy Western, Jen Lennard, the Bros. McGinniss, Herbert Franklin, and Frank Lennard, besides several other leading artistes and a full chorus of nearly sixty people. Feldman's are responsible for all the songs featured in the act, and Messrs. Burns and Edelsten are the exclusive agents. With such a combination in it, and behind it, the act must undoubtedly be a sensational success.

PARISIAN VARIETY SCHEMES.

SPECIAL TO "THE ERA."

At various times English amusement caterers have tried their hands at establishing places of entertainment in the French capital and have retired hurt. Although a cosmopolitan city, Paris is very conservative, and clings to its own ideas. Some years ago when the late Mr. Thomas Barrasford took over the lease of the theatre that is now the Alhambra, the Parisians, Press and public alike, were loud in their prophecies of failure. Unhappily, Mr. Barrasford only lived to plant the seed. After his death an English syndicate, of which Mr. Alfred Butt is the head, took over the Alhambra and turned it into a huge success. Even to people well acquainted with the geography of Paris, the Rue de Malte, where is situated the Alhambra, is not well known. It is far from the centre of the city as far as, say, the Bank from Piccadilly-circus—yet the theatre, in spite of the distance and the sordid neighbourhood wherein it is placed, manages to attract a well-dressed and monied public.

Some three years ago an English syndicate took the Casino de Paris in the Rue Blanche, and tried to run it as an English music hall. The scheme was doomed to failure from the beginning. Not being sufficiently conversant with the public they intended to cater for those responsible tried to force an entirely English programme on a long-suffering audience. The result was the expected. For a week or so people went to see the "English music hall," then they stayed away. After a short life, and a not particularly merry one, the artistes and orchestra went on strike, and the theatre was perforce shut down. Other English attempts to run Paris entertainments were a short and disastrous spell at the Moulin Rouge and Mr. Calvin Brown at the Magic City.

Now comes a really interesting scheme. It is proposed to build a music hall, to be run on London lines, on a spot not a hundred miles from the Madeleine. Such details as have become known appear excellent. The theatre—it will probably be called the "Empire" or the "Piccadilly"—will have three tiers, and the stalls will be fixed on a rake that will afford a good view to the promenade. Another good proposal is to entirely do away with the "ouvreuses"—the elderly ladies who worry one in every Parisian place of amusement. They are not paid by the management, so they depend on their "tips" for a living. They show the playgoer to his seat, and, if he has a lady with him, bring a footstool, and wait, with palm outstretched, for their "pourboire." A suffering public grumbles, but only in one case, in Astruc's theatre, have they been done away with.

The programme of this new music hall will comprise the best English and American turns, also—and this is very important—there will always be one or two famous French comedians and comediennes. The Alhambra management have found this very necessary, because the audience, particularly in the cheaper parts of the house, become very bored with an entirely foreign programme, however excellent it may be. Besides, the Parisian audience loves to hear a man who sings "catchy" songs, so that they can learn to sing them themselves; for instance, Fragson is this month at the Alhambra, and is singing twelve songs nightly. Such a thing is, of course, unheard of in England; but, as already pointed out in this article, an English manager who wishes to make a success in Paris must conform to Parisian customs. Another good innovation that is to be made is the creation of comfortable seats. Comfort in Paris theatres at present is quite unknown. If all the difficulties that beset their path are overcome, the management of the new English music hall, always provided that they study their audience, should be able to look forward to success.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

M.H.A.R.A.

Mr. Harry Gribben presided at the usual weekly meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A., held on Wednesday afternoon. Others present were Messrs. Syd Walker (hon. trustee), T. C. Callaghan, Alf Herald, J. W. Cragg (hon. trustee), Fred W. Mills (V.P.), and C. Douglas Stuart (secertary). Mr. A. Sweet, of the Union Hotel, Torquay, was appointed agent in that town. The weekly financial statement, showing sixty-three new members and a cash total of £85 1s., was passed.

The Beneficent Order of Terriers.

Mr. George Geraldo was initiated into the mysteries of the Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Julian Mack, W.T., assisted by Terrier Harry Gribben, V.T., Organist Terrier Arthur Were. Applications for membership have been received from Frank Eldred (Cecil, Eldred, and Carl), Neville Graham, Max Carl, Frank Hardie, and John Earl (first notice), Thos. J. Dowson (third notice), and Victor André (final notice).

At the meeting on Sunday last Terrier Tom Packer acted as W.I., Terrier H. M. Darsie as W.D., and Terrier Frank Melvin as Y.B. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Burnetti, Leo Sterling, Tom E. Cliffe, Neville Delmar, and Fred Hughes.

The Terriers have arranged to give a special entertainment upon the occasion of the Fête and Gala to be held at Brinsworth on Wednesday, July 9, 1913. A meeting will be held on Friday next, at 2 o'clock, at the Three Stags Hotel, to consider the matter. Any Terrier who is willing to take part in the entertainment is requested to forward his name to the Secretary, and may attend the meeting. Full particulars of the ladies' supper and concert to be held at the Hotel Boulogne on Sunday, June 1, will be forwarded to Terriers next week.

For the first time to the Victoria Palace comes, on Whit Monday, George Lashwood. Here, too, will be found that popular and very distinctive comedian, Joe Elvin. Among the novelties in the same programme is the performance of Sarah Weinreich, a most accomplished Russian dancer from the Opera House, Riga. Other features of the bill include Molly Wells and Frank Maybon (first appearance at this house), the Two Tomboys (lady "knockabout" comediennes), Scott and Whaley, the Morton Comedy Duo, Speedwell, Henriette de Serries' living statuary, Madeleine Rossiter, and Mabel Osborne.

In connection with the engagement of Mlle. Janette Denarber, at the London Pavilion, the "Daily Telegraph," in its "World of Variety" column on Saturday, talks of a censor. With Betsy Prig, we can affirm "there ain't no sich pusson" associated with the music halls. Janette, who was naturally much upset by the result of her action, was going back to Paris when Mr. Leon Zeitlin, with the instinct of the up-to-date showman, called upon her and offered her, on behalf of the Syndicate, an engagement at a West End hall.

He had already seen her turn at the Hippodrome, and there was no question of censoring either by him or his directors, who confirmed his offer. Sadness was turned to joy, and Janette appeared as one of the stars of the London Pavilion on Monday, when the process of changing raiment shadowed on to a screen certainly revealed nothing within measurable distance of indecency. Janette had a most sympathetic reception, and after she had sung "All alone," which has been in the English repertoire of at least two American comediennes, she introduced her sister, who, she said, was her "partnare."

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS

Fred Farren and Ida Crispi, of the Empire, London, are going to the Apollo Theatre, Vienna, for the opening of the season there. This is the first engagement of Fred Farren abroad. The booking is Braff's.

Mr. Hatton Wharton, late of the Moss' Empires Booking Committee, has now commenced operations as a variety and theatrical agent with offices at 17, Lisle-street, Leicester-square.

Braff's agency has been particularly busy of late, their most notable booking probably being that of Sumurun, which has just returned to the London Coliseum.

Morris and Florence, who are appearing in the new revue, "Eightpence a Mile," at the Alhambra, were booked by Mr. Braff. He has also made arrangements for Theodor Kosloff to produce the dances in the same production.

Mr. Rufe Naylor, of Africa's Amalgamated Theatres, Ltd., left for South Africa by the Kenilworth Castle last Saturday. Mr. Naylor expects to be away about ten weeks, and upon his return to England he states that the bookings for Africa's Amalgamated Theatres will be for an even longer tour than at present.

Very interesting developments are promised in the theatrical business in Africa in the near future. During the period that Mr. Naylor has been booking acts in England for the American Circuit his company has prospered exceedingly, and although during that period they have added three new theatres to the tour, the directors confidently hope to be in a position to pay the first dividend about August.

Some smaller enterprises in Africa have been undergoing parlous times, but the financial stability of Africa's Amalgamated Theatres has never been threatened. Of course, in competition fights of this kind it is usual that the weakest must go to the wall, and the fact that Africa's Amalgamated Theatres was founded with a capital of £125,000 has no doubt been the secret of its ultimate triumph over the opposition.

Mr. Rufe Naylor's English and African Agency business will be carried on during his absence by Mr. Peter C. Naylor and Mr. Jack Hamilton.

On the R.M.S. Briton to-day will sail the Four Charles, to open on the Hyman Circuit, South Africa. They are booked through the agency of Will Collins and Co.

Mr. W. Scott Adacker has found it necessary to move to more commodious offices. With the addition of the new Bromley Hippodrome, plans for which have been passed by the local authorities, the sole bookings for which he has for the next five years, Mr. Adacker is exclusively supplying turns for a round half-dozen halls.

Harry Leybourne, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, and Palo and Sellery have recently returned from a tour of Africa's Amalgamated Theatres, Ltd., booked by Mr. Chas. Hand's Agency. James Stewart and Barnard's Mannikins have just sailed to open on the same tour.

The Canterbury announces as a chief attraction in its Whitsun programme the début in London of Marcello, the wandering 'cellist, who will give an impersonation of the late Auguste Van Biene and play a 'cello rag.

The new comedian, Mr. James A. Watts, whose remarkable success in the Court Theatre, Liverpool, pantomime last Christmas, will be fresh in the memory of theatregoers, is to be the special attraction next week at the Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

Since his last appearance on Mersey-side, Mr. Watts has won a brilliant triumph in the Metropolis. Indeed, his success at the London Coliseum was nothing short of electrical. Mr. Watts is that product of modernity, the brainy comedian, and it is impossible to see him at work without realising that he has an unusual personality and that he is destined to win conspicuous honour in his profession.

The London Pavilion Whitsun programme, presented by Mr. Frank Glenister, coruscates with stars. Among the high lights are Wilkie Bard, Harry Tate, Neil Kenyon, Tom Clare, Cinequevalli, and Rutland Barrington, in that droll sketch, "The Conversion of Nat Sturge." It also includes: Four Royal Scots, Charles Whittle, the Fitzroys, La Belle Linda, Arthur Leslie, Paul Kaufman, Broughton and Credon, Cissie Curlette, and Mlle. Janette Denarber.

After a most successful provincial tour, Sandy McNab, that funny little comedian, is delighting huge audiences in Camden Town this week, where he is sharing the top of the bill at the Bedford. Sandy's appearance in Camden Town is a guarantee of bumper houses. If anything, his sketch, "The Egyptian Mummy," is better than ever. Sandy sustains the title-rôle with a wonderful sense of fun, and Miss Victoria Grosvenor is as charming as ever. At the termination of his performance at each house this week Sandy has had to acknowledge the cries and cheers for a speech. With such a reputation and such a fine sketch it seems a pity we cannot see more of this capable artiste in London.

In Glasgow Sheriff Court on Tuesday afternoon, Sheriff Craigie, K.C., heard parties in a petition for interdict by Robert Allan Poynter Williams, the present lessee of the Glasgow Savoy Theatre, against the directors and liquidator of the company. Petitioner claimed that he was entitled to remain in possession of the theatre as lessee in virtue of a verbal agreement entered into on Feb. 26, 1913. Respondents held that the lease was a weekly one, and they wished to terminate tenancy in order to re-open the theatre in the early autumn on behalf of the shareholders.

Sheriff Craigie said that it seemed to him that the petitioner had not shown a *prima facie* case for a yearly lease. On the contrary, it appeared that Mr. Williams was to a certain extent the tenant at will, and he certainly wrote one or two letters which did not suggest that he ever truly had the idea that he was a yearly tenant of the Savoy Theatre until he brought the present action. His lordship was determining nothing by recalling the interim interdict. He only recalled it on the ground that the respondents had shown a *prima facie* case in favour of the contention that there was no lease for a year subsisting between the parties.

THE STOLL SUBURBAN HOUSES.—Brilliant holiday programmes have been devised for the out-lying Stoll "houses." For the Hackney Empire the "Seaside Review," Beaumont Collins and company in "The Leaves of Memory," Little Freddie Hackin, and Gilday and Fox will be seen; Arthur Prince and Willard Hutchinson will appear at the Shepherd's Bush "house"; Mme. Lydia Yavorska in "Lolotte," Neil Kenyon, Oswald Williams, and the Elliott-Savonas are due at Chiswick Empire; while at the Wood Green "house" H. M. Vernon's "Nevada," Queenie Leighton, Jack Pleasants, and Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait are to appear.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

The importance of live material is at last being fully realised by all members of the profession, and the electrical demand for Feldman's latest and perhaps greatest triumph, "Take me in your arms and say you love me," introduced into the London Opera House revue, "Come Over Here," even to the house of great achievements, is nothing short of magical. From all parts of the country orders are pouring in, like a tidal wave, to the Arthur-street emporium of music, managers and artistes are at such an early date clamouring for pantomime permissions for it, and though the melody is only a couple of weeks old the whole country is talking about it.

Messrs. Feldman and Co. are always anxious to oblige their numerous clientèle as far as possible, but in this particular instance it is impossible for them to accede to the innumerable requests for permission to sing "Take me in your arms and say you love me"; but the firm hope as the season advances that they will be able to make everybody happy, and naturally they will give the many artistes and managers who have so loyally supported them every consideration when pantomime comes round. For the present they are withholding music hall permissions, but will allow high-class pierrots to use the song.

We tender our heartiest congratulations to Miss Clara Beck, the only English lady principal in the sensationally successful London Opera House revue, "Come Over Here," whose happy selection has proved so successful. The all-Feldman revue is made brighter by Miss Beck's engaging personality, and the enormous hit she is creating with "On the Mississippi" is most gratifying. There cannot be the slightest doubt as to the great popularity of Miss Beck's song in the months to come, and we may once again remind our readers that for the past few months Mr. Bert Feldman has been strongly tipping "On the Mississippi" as a certain fame-getter and money-accumulator.

The latest innovation is a rag-time competition, under the auspices of "Reynolds's" newspaper, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Gulliver, managing-director of the London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd., and inspired by Mr. Bert Feldman. These rag-time competitions have proved a great success during the week at no fewer than thirteen music halls, and the cash prizes given away amounted to over £200. "Reynolds's" great offer and Feldman's world-wide rag-time successes have given a splendid opportunity to amateurs.

It is a long time since the West End has had the privilege of welcoming our leading variety Beau Brummel, Mr. George Lashwood, who made a welcome re-appearance in town at the Holborn Empire last week, and had a well-deserved ovation, and at Hammersmith this week he is attracting crowded and enthusiastic audiences. Mr. George Lashwood is featuring with tremendous success one of Feldman's latest songs, "You wouldn't know the old place now," singing no fewer than five verses at each performance. Unless we are greatly mistaken Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have found a potential pantomime winner in Mr. Lashwood's latest offering.

Miss Gertie Gitana is, if possible, gaining more irradiative power every time she appears, and her drawing powers seem almost extraordinary for so young, though accomplished, a performer. Miss Gertie Gitana, who is an exclusive Feldman purveyor, has been visiting the Arthur-street building within the last few days, and will shortly introduce several new Feldman numbers. Managers and artistes should carefully note the fact that Miss Gitana has the exclusive rights of her latest success, "Baby Rose."

Fred Barnes is playing an extended tour of our suburban halls. This is Mr. Barnes' first appearance in town since his successful pantomime season at Glasgow, and he is going great guns with an entirely Feldman répertoire. Mr. Barnes, who did such Trojan work for Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. in pantomime, has been rewarded for his loyalty by the Arthur-street firm putting him on their new song annual, which circulates by hundreds of thousands throughout the world, a fact which demonstrates that artistes deserving of publicity get it in the largest measure from Messrs. Feldman and Co.

With a bound, that ear-haunting novelty creation, "Snooky ookums," is leaping into popularity, and to hear Miss Daisy James' reception, and the way the chorus is being taken up at the Oxford, justifies the confidence Mr. Bert Feldman has reposed in his latest Irving Berlin acquisition. We have no hesitation in endorsing Miss Daisy James' success in her new "Snooky ookums" song, and as soon as the public get a little more familiar with its originality we shall hear it throughout the entire metropolis, as was the case in connection with the other Berlin-Feldman *furores*.

At the Metropolitan this week Fields and Fields have captured all hearts by the excellence of their turn. This capable couple have just returned from a highly successful provincial tour, and it is a certainty that their success will be duplicated, if not actually excelled, in London. Their songs include two very excellent Feldman numbers, viz., "Take me back to the garden of love" and "Pick, pick, on your mandoline."

Mr. Arthur Stroud, who is meantime taking the place of Mr. Jamieson Dodds (on holiday) at the Hippodrome, is the object of much appreciative comment. His singing of "Somehow, some time, some place," is very effective indeed, and even the most captious critic has to admit that the charming Feldman ballad is being interpreted in a worthy manner.

The U.S.A. Minstrel Maids—a very successful combination in every regard—are happy in the possession of two such excellent artistes as Sam Pearl and Dave Roth, who are meantime featuring the great Feldman success, "Snookey ookums." Such a combination as Messrs. Pearl and Roth on the one hand, and "Snookey ookums" on the other, is truly irresistible.

"Those Girls" (Mamie Reddington, principal) have had a most gratifying reception at Chester during the week, their various numbers being voted excellent. Special mention is made of the ballad "I'll sing to you," published by B. Feldman and Co.

One of the most novel acts at present before the public is that of Miss Olive Tempest and company, "The Thought-reading Rag-timers." Miss Tempest receives "by telepathy" requests from members of the audience for rag-time songs, the thoughts being transmitted through her assistant in the auditorium. It is worthy of special note that one week's performances were responsible for upwards of fifty requests for Feldman songs, the most popular being "I want to be in Dixie," "Alexander's rag-time band," "Beautiful doll," and "How do you do, Miss Rag-time?" in the order named.

Mr. Will Goldston, the well-known conjurer and entertainment manager at Gamage's, sailed for New York on Saturday on the Campania. The chief object of his visit to the States is to bring back to this country a number of very effective and sensational tricks.

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"I LOVE IT."

("J'ADORE CA.")

FRENCH REVUE AT MIDDLESEX.

The Entente Cordiale found an immense number of devotees at the New Middlesex on Monday, which was packed twice with an Anglo-Gallic crowd that gave welcome—hearty and spontaneous—to the Revue de Ba-ta-Clan, which comes from Paris with the prestige of 250 performances. The authors, MM. Celval and Charley, between them have contrived a picturesque and popular entertainment, by turns romantic, melodramatic, operatic, with peeps into the past and anticipations of the future. The first act opens in the Kingdom of Toys, wherein we learn that Father January (the originator of étrennes) and his servant, Séraphine, are threatened with bankruptcy; for the modern children are weary of toys—at least, so both Christmas and Easter Belle declare. There is a revolution in Toyland, and the Harlequin Compère and the Doll Commère are sent to study the question. The chief value of the scene is that it gives opportunity for pretty girls to dance. In the second tableau—the Rose Exhibition at Bagatelle in the Bois-de-Boulogne—fun is poked at the women's rights question. Madame has taken to trousers; monsieur therefore wears the petticoat—or, rather, "la jupe culotte"—and refuses conjugal rights until she resumes the garments proper to her sex. The persiflage of Mlle. Sarbel and M. E. Dellys got home in this scene, and there was much laughter from the popular parts of the house, largely occupied by members of the French colony.

In the third tableau the works of Jules Massenet are passed in rapid review, the scene being the Chateau d'Egreville, where the regretted French maestro wrote his principal works. Scenes are given from "Don Quichotte," "Cendrillon," "Werther," "Griselidis," and "Manon." In strong contrast comes the ninth tableau, "Sous le Pont de L'Alma," the home of the wastrels and vagabonds. The satire and fun of this scene are typically Parisian. In the tenth tableau we are in Seville in the atmosphere of "Carmen," among gay picadors, banderillos, and toreadors. Mlle. Manesca, as an Andalusian, dances a cachuca, and there is a gay procession of the picturesque crowd down the flower-decked pathway into the stalls.

Gay Seville is followed by stately Versailles and Rome under the Borgias. This last is a gorgeous scene representing the Palace of the Borgias, where César and Lucrèce Borgia "receive" the ladies of the Roman nobility, who are entertained by a ballet of night birds—ballerines in bat-like costumes—and a mimodramatic story of a fisherman and a peasant girl who have both drunk of a love-philtre. The scene reaches the highest plane of magnificence, and is a complete triumph for the costumier and the stage-manager. A very dainty picture of the day of Louis XV. is realised in the opening scene of the second act, where the minuet is danced, the old-world atmosphere being in direct contrast to the modern fashions displayed on mannequins, and to the "dress of to-morrow"—a chic costume which mostly consists of an immense muff. Other things are worn, of course, but the small amount of material used is the point of the joke—a Parisian jeu d'esprit that has its droll aspect even for the Britisher.

The fifteenth tableau introduces us to the Paris underworld, the scene being a low restaurant. Therein a petite mélodrame is acted. A sailor coming in for refreshment meets Yvonne, the sister of a comrade who has lost his life in a submarine disaster. The Apaches hold her captive, and she would escape. She enrages the chief cut-throat by restoring their money to two soldiers who have been robbed while drinking, and he is about to murder her when the man-o'-war's man does prodigies of valour, and rescues the maiden in distress. In this scene M. Fortuné greatly distinguished himself, acting with a vigour and manliness that captured the house. We were rather disappointed in "Le Valse Rouge"—there was nothing of the grim Apache atmosphere about this.

At Boulogne we celebrate the triumph of aviation, and do homage to Blériot and Grahame-White, and the final apotheosis typifies the triple alliance of England, Russia, and France. Among the ladies who are prominent we may mention Mlles. Ketbrune, Stella, Marthe Sarbel, Delbay, Micheline, Lagny, Dalny, Dalti, Manesca, Lynder, Nora Creina, Lancay, Munier, Bercy, and among the gentlemen MM. Perol, Dellys, Sarbel, Fortuné, Niel, Chap-Hell, Max, Hyma, and Duval. To the assistance of Mr. Bertie Shelton the smoothness of the first night representation was largely due, and we are glad to hear that the advance booking is more than satisfactory. The production of "J'Adore Ca" gives an additional gloss to the golden cord of the Entente Cordiale.

PROS(E) AND PROVERBS.

By ERNEST SHAND.

Envy is a weed that follows a good turn.

Definition of a dresser: One who goes for drinks.

Love thy neighbour as thyself—especially thyself.

A rolling stone gathers no Moss Tour.

A bird in the hand is worth two from the front.

"More Syndicate than sinning," as the first turn said at the Tivoli.

It's a wise man who knows his own agent.

Don't stop rag-time. Wind it up. It'll soon bust.

Dead men tell no tales. No; but lots of their tales have been resurrected.

Sweet are the uses of advertisement; especially from the editor's point of view.

A man cannot serve two masters. That's owing to the Barring Clause.

Amateurs step in where old pros fear to tread.

"Thank God I am not as other men are" is the peculiar, but appropriate, prayer of the pro. who pinches other people's business.

One good turn deserves another rise of salary.

We all of us wish to get to heaven, but most of us want the earth. Eventually we shall get a bit of it.

Consider the lilies; they toil not, &c. This does not apply to the musicians in orchestras where it is two houses a night and matinées.

It's a long tour that has no ending.

Contracts, like promises, are made to be broken.

A confirmation has nothing to do with the Church service.

Choose every man after his dessert—that's the time to talk business.

Christopher Columbus discovered America. A dirty trick!

The days of the "gincrawl" are over; the days of the golf links have begun.

When some small turns—and I say *some* advisedly—blossom into stars, what a boon to hatters!

There is to be another music hall syndicate in New York. But the prospectus will be issued in Jerusalem.

A Miss is *not* as good as a smile.

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery; but it must be a rotten game being a copyist.

Whom the gods love die young; but I've seen many an old stager make a big hit with the gallery.

Never put off till to-morrow the new song you should put on to-night.

Victor Niblo and his wonderful singing and talking birds, Cuckoo and Laura, will be seen once again in the West-End after their most successful American tour of twelve months. They open Monday next at the Alhambra.

VAUDEVILLE IN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Hugh D. McIntosh reopened the Adelaide Theatre—the Tivoli—on April 7. He closed this three months ago to await the building of a new vaudeville house, which he had put in the builder's hands. This is to be called the Tivoli. It is to be built in record time, and will stand, when complete, as the most up-to-date vaudeville house in Australia. But Mr. McIntosh has been crowding artistes into the circuit and improving his theatre bill to such an extent that he has found it necessary to reopen the old Tivoli Theatre, Adelaide, before the new one is ready for occupation. A strong company, composed of artistes of the first rank, has been chosen for Adelaide.

The new Adelaide Theatre is merely the forerunner of many others. Before the end of the year the Rickards Circuit will have seven theatres in full swing. That will mean just double the strength of personnel in artistes. Mr. McIntosh, however, has been keeping the cables going during the last few weeks. Artistes in England, Africa, America, and the Continent he has engaged by cable, and provision made for a considerable time ahead.

All this proves that vaudeville in Australia is booming and is going to boom even more in the future. The vaudeville stage has never stood upon such a high plane in Australia as at present, and this is due to the fact that Mr. McIntosh not only insists upon keeping all his programmes up to the English standard, but is for ever straining after something better. He has the keenest sense for the public taste, and anticipates it in every possible way.

At the Sydney Tivoli Theatre, the headquarters of the circuit, the headline turn at present is supplied by Harry Corson Clarke and Margaret Dale Owen. They are playing a clever comedy sketch, which has fairly caught the public favour. Mr. Clarke and his wife leapt into popularity as members of the J. C. Williamson comedy company when they played "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford." It was a smart piece of business on Mr. McIntosh's part to induce the pair to return to vaudeville. They had a strong following in Australia, and the following has come after them to the vaudeville halls.

Miss Nella Webb has just completed a successful tour through New Zealand with a specially chosen company, and she was included in the bill which was presented at Adelaide on April 7. Arnold De Biere, who was the chief star of the New Zealand company, opened in Melbourne at the circuit's big opera house. He scored heavily in Melbourne during his previous season there, and seems well able to repeat his success.

Henri French, Alexander Prince (whose contract has been extended for an additional twelve weeks), Reynard and Rosella (a clever musical turn), Cassie Walmer (an old favourite in Australia), George Bryant and company (a dramatic company in a splendid sketch), Kitchen and Foy (comedy gymnasts), and a number of other fine turns complete the Sydney bill at time of writing.

Hugh D. McIntosh's name above a vaudeville bill has already come to be regarded as a guarantee of excellence, though he has been in the business less than a year.

THE MUSIC HALL CHARITIES.

THE 1d. IN THE £ TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With your permission I will endeavour to reply to "Spot Light's" arguments in this week's "Wednesday Era" against the above scheme. I accept his estimate of £6,500 income from the 200 music halls, but in my estimate of £8,000 income I have included all those picture theatres that regularly play turns, which I maintain must be done to make the scheme universal. He says, "The ad valorem tax would no doubt be strongly opposed when the salary was in the three-figure region, making the tax at the rate of £21 5s. for the year per head on a hundred pounds a week."

I venture to say that there are very few performers earning that salary who have not in the past—either directly or indirectly—given each year far more than the sum named in the shape of donations to the various charities, and in the form of private help to deserving cases, who would not feel delighted to be freed from such demands in the future by the payment of £21 5s., especially when the weekly deductions are so small as not to be noticed. To those performers earning that salary, who have not in the past responded to the call of charity (if there be any) I would point out this fact, that the sum of £21 5s. per annum out of an income of £5,000 earned in the music hall business, cannot be deemed harsh or unjust, considering the noble work to be accomplished.

"Spot Light" further says, "Although the learned arbitrator might put it into his contract, we fear it would not figure in the 'obligatory' clauses, and not being in the obligatory ones, its gradual disappearance 'by mutual consent of both parties to the contract' would be but a matter of time." I suggest that by mutual consent of both performer and proprietor, this clause should be an obligatory one; even if not, one can hardly realise the £100 a week turn and a proprietor making secret agreements to avoid the payment of an honourably agreed tax, amounting to only 8s. 4d. per week, in the sacred cause of charity. I prefer to have a higher opinion of the performer's and proprietor's honour.

The suggestion that the tax should not be paid till the agent's 10 per cent. has been deducted is paltry. This could be only operative on salaries of £10 and upwards, amounting to only 10d. in the case of the £100 a week turn. No doubt that the agents would refund this if desired.

I quite agree with "Spot Light" that the great difficulty is the question of the extra work the proprietors would have to undertake in book-keeping, and in the making up of the salaries—and I would have hesitated to suggest this if there were not a precedent to point to—one agreed to by the proprietors themselves, who have already undertaken the responsibility of deducting certain sums each week from the performer's salary in the shape of the agent's 10 per cent. commission, which must necessitate an equal (if not more) amount of labour than would be required under this scheme. Therefore one would venture to hope the proprietors would extend the same favour to this scheme for the sacred cause of charity.

The 6d. a head from each performer weekly scheme (which receives "Spot Light's" benediction) I think needs only this point to prove its injustice. The turn earning £5 per week would pay one 200th part of his weekly earnings, but the turn earning £100 per week would only pay one 4,000th part of his weekly earnings? One can at least compliment "Spot Light" on having no socialistic tendencies.

Providing that performer and proprietor have an honest and sincere desire to place the music hall charities upon a just and sound financial footing, I claim that the 1d. in the £ tax will fulfil these conditions.—Yours faithfully,

MAURICE H. HOFFMAN.

All card collectors for the Music Hall Home New Year's Appeal are requested to remit their collections to the Secretary of the Home at once, so that the accounts can be closed forthwith in preparation for the amalgamation with the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution. The next committee meeting is on Friday, May 16, at 3.30 p.m.

"SUMURUN'S" RETURN.

WELCOME BACK TO THE COLISEUM.

The glamour of the East hangs once again over the Coliseum, where "Sumurun" on Monday made another bid for favour, and won it at the hands of a crowded house. The piece is as picturesque kaleidoscopic, and whimsical as ever, and Professor Reinhardt is to be congratulated on preserving the typical "Arabian Nights" atmosphere throughout the seven elaborate scenes. Fräulein Leopoldine Konstantin as the beautiful slave who is the centre of so many tragic episodes commands the same admiration for her rhythmical movements and grace, and Fräulein Maria Andor, lithe, subtle, and active, realises the rôle of Sumurun to perfection. Herr Edward Rothauser is eloquently expressive of all the agonies, both physical and mental, endured by the Hunchback, and the stalwart physique of Herr Paul Conradi again enables him to make an imposing Sheik. The drolleries of the attendants in the bazaar serve to enliven the piece, and are thoroughly appreciated. The production occupies a little less time in performance, its hold upon the audience being thus materially strengthened.

REMAINING ATTRACTIONS.

The greatest favourite of the programme is obviously Mr. Albert Chevalier, who is repeating the songs which did duty last week. That coster classic, "Knocked 'em in the Old Kent-road," figures among them, and at its conclusion the audience strove hard to get the popular comedian back to the stage, and, though they were not able to exact another song, they got the refrain of the "Knocked 'em" in French, a circumstance which caused huge delight. "Her Ladyship," in which Miss Marie Studholme shines conspicuously, is wisely retained in the bill, and causes unlimited laughter. Miss Studholme, as the resourceful young actress, enchants the audience, and admirable assistance is rendered by Mr. Walter Pearce as the husband and Mr. Somers Bellamy as the rich but vulgar uncle. Mr. John Harrison is also retained to give delight with his rich-toned tenor and to win added laurels. Mr. Arthur Prince comes into the programme with his smart ventriloquial act, which entertains from beginning to end and keeps the house in constant laughter.

"RACING CATS."

A new importation into the programme is that of Baron's Menagerie, in which dogs in lions' clothing figure amusingly. Quite a tour de force is reserved for the end, when four cats compete in a handicap up as many perpendicular ropes, and great is the excitement when "scratch" wins by his whiskers. Another novelty is that of the Twelve Olympian Girls, presented by Mr. J. W. Jackson, in the Mirror Dance and "Inquisitive Moon," and the Geni Family, ten Risley performers, who make a brave appearance in toreador costume. Bowden and Stol, comedy acrobats; and the Kinemacolor pictures are other items of the long and strong bill, of which Mr. Oswald Stoll may properly be proud.

A NEW COMEDIENNE.

MISS FRANKIE DREW.

One rather noticeable feature of the rag-time boom has been its apparent excuse for the introduction of a large number of fresh faces among comediennes appearing at West-End houses. Most of them, unfortunately, have relied too much on the popularity of syncopated music and too little upon their own ability. Consequently few genuine successes have been achieved by the new-comers. It was therefore with a certain amount of pardonable scepticism that we anticipated the appearance of Miss Frankie Drew, an American artiste, at the Oxford on Monday evening. However, by the end of her first song we awoke with pleasure to the fact that here, at last, was a newcomer who, before a critical audience, was really justifying the opportunity of "making good" where so many others had failed. Her second and third numbers fully confirmed the impression, and when Miss Drew took her final curtain her success was undoubtedly assured.

Miss Drew is a comedienne of rare grace and charming vocal ability. She is fortunate in having secured some excellent songs, and she was well advised to open with such a tuneful and novel number as "The lime-light man." The melody was taken up at once by the audience in a manner that one seldom meets with nowadays. The orchestration probably needs a little alteration, a matter which, we have no doubt, will be attended to immediately. Of her other songs we much preferred "The chanticleer" rag, a good number, sung with all possible effect.

THE NEW ALHAMBRA REVUE.

"Eightpence-a-Mile," the revue announced for production on Wednesday and postponed to Friday (yesterday) evening, is in two acts, 14 scenes, and 23 tableaux. Its title promises an entertainment of a go-ahead character, full of vim and joyous satire. In "Kill that Fly!" there were the usual Commère and Compère; now we are to have one Compère and no fewer than five Commères, which seems to indicate that the authors, Messrs. George Grossmith and Mr. Fred Thompson, have provided plenty of dialogue. The opening scene shows the exterior of St. James's Palace 100 years ago, a useful starting-point, and a striking contrast to the Admiralty Arch of to-day, which, by a quick change, succeeds it.

Mr. Robert Hale, the chief comedian, has a large variety of parts, as usual. Much is expected of the scene in which he, as a typical American detective, is brought into conflict with Mr. Hugh E. Wright, of Scotland Yard. He will also impersonate Harry Tate. Among the ladies Miss Ella Retford—making her first appearance in revue—Miss Muriel Hudson, Miss Violet Englefield ("The Bad Girl of the Family") Miss Marjorie Maxwell, and Miss Carlotta Mossetti all have plenty to do, and in Miss Hilda Bewicke, a pupil of Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, will be seen an English première danseuse of whom great things are expected. A Casino scene at Tooting Plage, a Boulter's Lock scene, with the familiar Sunday afternoon types, a Theodor Kosloff ballet, "Flowers of Allah," new fancy ball dances by Maurice and Florence Walton, and a skit on ultra-modern art, "The Futurists," are to be prominent features in the new production.

Owing to their recent great success at the Coventry Hippodrome, the popular duo, Palo and Sellery, were immediately re-engaged.

S. W. Wyndham, the comedian with the peculiar voice, returns to London next week. His "Don't forget your little dicky bird" song has been immensely popular in the provinces, and he will shortly introduce another song equally funny, and of which he entertains great hopes.

The management of the Alhambra, Morecambe, has been taken over by Mr. Tom Atkinson, erstwhile manager of the Winter Gardens. Mr. Atkinson's many friends will be pleased to hear of this arrangement, and the excellent programmes provided by him during his management of the latter place form a good augury for future bills at the Alhambra.

The season at the Montpellier Pavilion, Cheltenham, opened on Saturday, May 3, with two concerts by the Royal Glos. Hussars Band. The stage has been enlarged, and the seating accommodation increased, and a great many other improvements have been effected to suit the convenience and make for the comfort of patrons of this popular resort.

"THE VISITOR."

Sketch, by George Baud. English Version by Edne Mollon. Produced at the Manchester Hippodrome on Monday, April 28.

Prince Trumittoff ..... } Mr. George Baud
The Visitor ..... }
The Actress .. Miss Edne Mollon "Ma Gosse"
The Maid ..... Mlle. Marie Baud

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Described as the great French thriller (from the Moulin Rouge, Paris), M. George Baud's "The Visitor" certainly makes a bold bid to justify its startling advertisement. The scene is the cosily furnished boudoir of a French actress, and the hour midnight. A maid is asleep on a couch, but is disturbed by a knock at the door. On opening the door, she is surprised by the entrance of a gentleman, Prince Trumittoff, who asks for her mistress. The maid, explaining that the latter has not yet returned from the theatre, asks the gentleman to leave. The Prince, however, laughingly answers that it is all right; he has made a bet with her mistress that he will give her a fright within a certain time. Therefore he would like to remain, in order to make an attempt to win the bet. Naturally, the maid remonstrates, but a bribe works wonders, and she consents on condition that the Prince will promise not to frighten her mistress too much.

Someone is heard coming up the stairs. The Prince hurriedly conceals himself behind the curtain, while the maid throws herself into a chair, pretending to be asleep. Enter the actress. The maid pretends to wake up; her mistress remarks upon being somewhat late, and while removing her wraps asks the girl if she has been smoking. The maid replies in the negative, but her mistress, not satisfied, presently observes a lighted cigarette on the table, left there by the Prince in his hurry. With a smile, she gives her maid permission to retire, and is then left alone. She seats herself on a couch with her back to the curtain, and almost immediately the Prince, emerging from his hiding place, comes softly and touches her on the shoulder. His ruse is futile, for she coolly says, "You've lost. I knew it was you." Not to be beaten, however, the Prince reminds her that the period covered by the bet is not yet up, and vows that he will succeed before the time expires. He wishes her good-night, and goes.

When preparing to retire she hears a noise at the French window. A shadow is visible on the glass. Guessing that it is the Prince trying to win his bet, she calls out, "You may come in; I know who you are." A shabbily dressed man enters, who, asking her what she is getting at, demands her jewels. She laughs, protesting that he cannot frighten her. The burglar, showing her a knife, threatens her with death, adding that he has already stabbed the gentleman who has just left. He further disarms her assurance by stating that he knows there is no one in the house but herself and the maid. The actress now begins to show signs of doubt and fear. Seizing his advantage, the man, still flourishing the knife, pleases himself by forcing her to dance, as he has seen her at the theatre. Frightened at last, but in the hope of getting possession of the knife, she goes through some singular and virile evolutions, made peculiar by the circumstances, the man following her movements in threatening style. Several times she succeeds in gaining possession of the weapon, but he takes it from her, until at last, seizing it once more, an opportunity occurs for her to stab him in the back. The denouement is tragic, for she finds that it is the Prince after all, and she falls across his body in a faint. The play was very well presented, the dance being very exciting, and probably intended as the great feature of the sketch, which indeed it is. Mons. Stilson, of Paris, is responsible for the arrangement of the dancing. George Baud as Prince Trumittoff and the Visitor, filled the dual rôle cleverly, and Edne Mollon played the Actress with fine spirit, while Marie Baud was satisfactory as the maid.

"THE IRON KING."

At the Surrey Theatre this week is appearing a turn new to London—a strong man, whose name is Myer Goldstein, appropriately called "The Iron King." This is his first appearance in Great Britain, and, judging from the applause he received from a packed audience on Monday, he immediately caught on. Amongst the many marvellous feats he performs the one which perhaps exhibits his great strength to the most advantage is that in which he has an iron girder, such as is used in the building of houses, placed across his shoulders. He then balances fifteen men on each end until the iron is well bent. He also twists many pieces of iron into many different shapes. It is of interest to note that all the iron Mr. Goldstein uses is manufactured in England. Other feats of strength include balancing a piano and a player on his body and driving a seven-inch nail through a thick plank of wood, using his bare fist as a hammer.

Thirty-four years of age, massively built, and standing well over 6ft. Mr. Goldstein's strength is the result of natural conditions alone, for he has never undergone a day's training in his life. He is justly proud of his record, for he has toured practically the whole of the Continent, Africa, Egypt and many other places. He was first called the Iron King at St. Petersburg, and he received here a silk sash and a silver medal bearing the Russian coat of arms. In Africa he played for ten months consecutively, and defeated all the strong men of note. Myer Goldstein is being booked exclusively by French's Variety Agency, and there is little doubt that he will add many English successes to those achieved upon Continental and South African tours.

Mr. Harry Marvello returns to the London halls next week, and will again present "The Silver Hat," after a most successful tour of the provinces. This clever illusion has proved to the magical fraternity that there is still wide scope for fresh ideas in the realms of magic, and everyone interested should not fail to see this prettily-staged act during its coming season in town. "The Silver Hat" is under contract with the London Theatres of Varieties Co., Ltd., and opens at the Croydon Empire on Monday.

"SIBERIA" IN LIVERPOOL.

Water Spectacle, Produced by Mr. Frank Parker, Revived at Olympia, Liverpool, on Monday, May 5.

General Ivanoff ..... Mr. Cecil M. York
Major Karoutski ..... Mr. Charles Weir
Captain Orloff ..... Mr. Vincent Lawson
Captain Rentzef ..... Mr. Jack Chester
Lieutenant Hermanoff .... Mr. Henry Howard
Lieutenant Malefsky ..... Mr. Leslie Paget
Nickolai ..... Mr. G. Lyne
Dimitri ..... Mr. H. Dobson
Vera Ivanoff ..... Miss Ruth Maitland

It is some years since this stirring water spectacle was given at the Liverpool Olympia, with its vast water space, and it was evident by the manner in which the place was crowded on Monday evening that the Liverpool public had not forgotten its value as a show. Produced by Mr. Frank Parker, everything went without a hitch, and all concerned are to be congratulated upon the success which attended its representation on its revival. The mounting was both elaborate and effective, and the excitement of the various scenes aroused the public to expressions of enthusiasm.

The story fairly well follows the old lines, and tells how the cruel Governor Ivanoff desires his sister Vera to marry one of his rascally chief officers, her affections being set on young Captain Orloff. The girl escapes from the custody of the governor, who pursues her in a sleigh, while the lover is despatched to Siberia. In the following act the prisoners, loaded with chains, are seen being driven to Siberia, Orloff among them, and on the appearance of the girl she is captured by Ivanoff and carried away in the sleigh. Meanwhile the prisoners are freed through means of a stolen handcuff key, but are fired on as they escape in all directions. In the third scene the convicts and horses spring into the river, the excitement being great. The governor and his sleigh come along, and the horses, becoming affrighted, dash into the water, where he is drowned. The girl has previously jumped out of the vehicle, and joins her lover.

Mr. Cecil M. York played strongly as the general; Mr. Vincent Lawson made an admirable lover; the rôle of Vera was charmingly undertaken by Miss Maitland; and the rest of the cast gave valuable assistance.

The production is to run for a month, and will very probably do well. The story is from the pen of Mr. W. H. Risque, and the music by Mr. Georges Jacobi.

"THE PANEL DOCTOR."

A New and Original Scottish Sketch, by Miss Katharine Mann. Produced at the Pavilion, Glasgow, on Monday, May 5.

Robert McWhannell ..... Mr. Joe Barker
Dr. Davidson ..... Mr. Robert Purdie
Georgeena ..... Miss Sheila McNeil
Mrs. Meikle ..... Miss Margaret McKenzie
Miss Neil ..... Miss Effie Graham

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This new sketch has a sly dig at the new Insurance Act, and is very humorously worked out. The scene is laid in a doctor's consulting-room, and the fun consists in the many varieties of garrulous patients, with trifling ailments (or none at all), who come wasting the doctor's time on the strength of the magic little "red ticket." The sketch is cleverly written, shows a keen sense of appreciation of the humorous possibilities of the subject, and the dialogue is full of clever lines, which kept the audience in shrieks of merriment from the first moment to the last. As the much-harassed panel doctor Mr. Robert Purdie acted well, and Mr. Joe Barker gave a ripe and richly comic study of the talkative patient, who, after a long harangue, is found to be in need of nothing more than a bottle of hair-restorer! Miss Sheila McNeil as Georgeena fitted the character to a nicety, and her dialogue, in the broadest of Scots, was extremely amusing. Miss Margaret McKenzie acted cleverly as a married woman who brings her infant to be treated on her husband's insurance card. Miss Effie Graham as the doctor's nurse-housekeeper looked charming, and completed an excellent cast. The sketch has every prospect of making a big hit.

DEATH OF MR. G. W. BOWES.

The death occurred at Abertillery, South Wales, on the 27th ult., of Mr. George William Bowes, of Sittingborne, the well-known Kentish amusement and sports caterer. Mr. Bowes was on tour with "The Rag-time Girl." He had concluded a successful run with "The Forty Thieves" pantomime, with which he had toured Kent, the South Coast, the North of Ireland, and part of the Western counties and Wales. Just before the evening performance commenced on Thursday, 24th ult., Mr. Bowes had an apoplectic seizure, and he died on the Sunday morning, never having regained consciousness.

Mr. Bowes, who was 53 years of age, was a native of Sittingbourne. As a young man he started as an agent in the dramatic profession. He booked many travelling companies to Sittingbourne and other Kentish towns, and finding the business prosper he enlarged the scope of his operations, until the companies in which he was financially interested toured the South, West, and Midlands. As one of the partners in "The Sign of the Cross," of which the provincial rights had been secured, and afterwards on his own initiative, Mr. Bowes toured the British Isles.

The remains of the deceased were laid to rest in Sittingbourne Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon, in the presence of several fellow-townsmen and friends, the Vicar of Sittingbourne, the Rev. A. B. Parry-Evans, officiating.

The Actors' Orphanage Garden Party, to be given in the Hospital Gardens, Chelsea, on Tuesday, June 3, will have its vaudeville palace as well as its temple of the legit. In the former will be found a galaxy of stars, among those who have volunteered being Neil Kenyon, the McNaughtons, Jock McKay, the Two Bobs, Charles Coborn, Ella Retford, Dave Samuels, Helen Mar, Frank Vernon. Joe Wilson, of the Tivoli, is looking after the business side of the performance, which will be under the general direction of Edwin Barwick and Douglas Stuart.

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VAUDEVILLE AVIATION SUNDAY.

FREE FLIGHTS FOR VARIETY LADIES.

Considerable interest is being evinced in the Variety world in the Vaudeville Aviation Sunday to be held at Hendon on May 18, under the auspices of "The Era" and the Management of the London Aerodrome.

A gratifying number of helpers prominent in the Vaudeville world (who are also being assisted by friends connected solely with the Theatre) have now willingly offered their services for the purposes of making a collection at Hendon on behalf of the Vaudeville Charities. The list of these ladies is now composed as follows:—The Misses Maidie Hope, Ethel Levey, Shirley Kellogg, Lydia Kyasht, Ella Retford, Georgina Milne, Nora Kerin, Dorothy Duveen, Maie Hoey, Rena Parker, Mamie Buck, Unity More, Phyllis Bedells, Amy Eliot, Jane Wood, Nita Carew, Adèle Levey, Senorita Carmen Turia, Miss Renie King, Mrs. Herbert Darnley, the Misses Ida Compton Williams, Winifred Bransby Williams, Nora Benson, Marie Kendall, Phyllis Monkman, and Muriel Hudson.

Flights will be made during the afternoon by various prominent members of the profession, in addition to the usual attractive exhibitions of airmanship made by the well-known Hendon aviators.

In order to add to the interest of the occasion the Management of the London Aerodrome has decided to offer free flights to two lady members of the Vaudeville profession, who shall be selected by votes by the readers of "The Era."

The voting has been very active: and the position of the ladies to date is:—1st, Miss Jane Wood; 2nd, Miss Maidie Hope; 3rd, Miss Dorothy Duveen; 4th, Miss Nita Carew; 5th, Miss Ella Retford; 6th, Miss Muriel Hudson; 7th, Miss Shirley Kellogg; 8th and 9th, Miss Marie Studholme, Miss Unity More (these two ladies have received equal number of votes); 10th, Miss Vesta Tilley; 11th, Miss Adèle Levey; 12th, Miss Rena Parker.

The other remaining ladies have received votes in the following order:—Misses Ethel Levey, Marie Lloyd, Annie Saker, Ellaline Terriss, Millie Henderson, Gertie Millar, Grace Washburn, Mamie Buck, Bessy Clifford, Clara Beck, Florrie Forde, Daisy James, and Gertie Gitana.

Special tea-tables have now been arranged in the Reserved Enclosure for parties from the Palace, Empire, Alhambra, Hippodrome, Palladium, London Opera House, Victoria Palace, Pavilion, Oxford, Tivoli, Metropolitan, &c. A military band will be in attendance; and an interesting function of this character will, without doubt, attract a large concourse of spectators to the popular Hendon flying ground.

Readers of "The Era" are invited to send in their vote as early as possible, so as to be recorded in connection with the final list, to be published next week. The votes should be forwarded to the Publisher at "The Era" offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

WALFORD BODIE AT COLLINS'S.

"It is like being at home," remarked Dr. Walford Bodie to our representative, after the first house on Monday night, and it is easy to understand this, seeing the splendid reception he received on his fifth visit to Islington. He was billed for two new acts, but owing to his having scarcely fully recovered from his recent severe illness, he is not at present giving his ventriloquial sketch. He is very sorry for this, as it is his ambitious intention to show London that, quite apart from electricity and bloodless surgery, he is an "artiste" in the full sense of the word.

However, the new electrical act, presented with the assistance of La Belle Electra, is more than sufficient to justify his heading any bill. After apparently placing La Belle Electra under hypnotic influence, he passes many thousands of volts through her, as she sits in the chair of death, and to prove to the sceptical that the electricity really does pass through her body, he causes giant sparks to fly between her and himself; lights six lamps from a connection held in her hand; places a carbon in her mouth, which is brought to a white heat. For a moment one fears for the subject, but the confidential sangfroid of Bodie disarms all apprehension.

Bodie then invites a number of the audience on to the stage. On Monday evening some ten or eleven gentlemen responded, and if they suffered any pain from the currents of electricity they can console themselves with the fact that they highly amused a delighted house.

When these novices sat on the chair held by La Belle Electra and received a shock we smiled; when one of them fenced with her and got a double dose as the swords came in contact we laughed. But the climax came when one subject attempted to kiss La Belle, for we saw a spark fly from her with deadly aim at his nose.

Many other experiments followed, in which the power of hypnotic suggestion were displayed, this bringing the act to a successful conclusion.

In this, his latest production, Walford Bodie has an act that should make good all over London.

THE U.S.A. MINSTRELS AND MAIDS AT NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

The U.S.A. Minstrels and Maids scored a distinct success at their first performance in this country at New Cross Empire on Monday. The artistes, who number upwards of 60 (more than half of whom are ladies), are all seated on raised rostrums as the curtain rises, the pleasing effect eliciting loud applause from the audience. The ladies all look exceptionally well in their knee breeches and silk stockings, the men for the most part being dressed in the customary evening attire. Opening with a concerted chorus, "Dixie," the pretty voices of the chorus harmonise to perfection. Solo numbers by Minnie Love ("Tommy Atkins"), Sam Pearl ("Snooky ookums"), Clara Cooper ("Meet me in rosetime, Rosie"), Dorothy Eden ("I want you"), and duets by King C. Cole and Sam Pearl ("Hullo, Miss U.S.A."), and Messrs. Pearl and Roth ("Rag-time minstrel band"), were all ably rendered.

Of the above solos and duets we should select "Meet me in rosetime, Rosie," as being the prettiest and by far the best worked number. The electrical effects, with the help of megaphones in the chorus, were very striking from the front.

The real minstrel show and fun, however, was left until the entrance of Messrs. Joe Dullevy, Mike Coakley, and Loo Hardey, clever artistes all three, whose smart jokes kept the house continuously on the laugh. Their solos, "Way down in Georgia," "In the moonlight," and "I'd rather have a girlie than a motor car," added to some well executed dancing, were certainly among the features of the show.

Mr. King C. Cole, the business manager, also acts as interlocutor. The entire production is finely staged and dressed, and its beautiful scenic illustration is by Mr. Francis H. Bull. It may assuredly be voted a winner.

The municipal orchestra scheme for Brighton recommended by the Aquarium Committee embraces a concert hall, with a terrace over it and an approach from Marine Parade. The hall would have a length of about 184 feet, with an average width of 85 feet and a total height of 35 feet, and be capable of seating about 3,000 persons. In addition to the "cellar-like" entrance, further entrances are provided from Marine Parade and Madeira Drive. A garden terrace of nearly half an acre in extent would be formed over the hall for the enjoyment of the public. The committee feel that the erection of the concert hall will meet a want in the town, as well as assist in the solution of the difficulties attending the Aquarium property as a whole. The scheme involves an outlay of, roughly, £12,000.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE BEDFORD.

The great Sandy McNab is presenting here his latest absurdity, "King Pharaoh," which is a most comic sketch, and Sandy scores all along the line with his Scotch comedy. He is ably assisted by his company, who lend him great assistance. In a little speech on Monday evening he reminded his audience that it was at the Bedford, four years ago, that he made his first London appearance. He has made great strides since then, and we shall look to see him here again shortly.

At the head of the bill is Joe Peterman's latest success, "The Seaside Review," which is as breezy and bright a show as could be wished for. True, it is utterly inconsequent, but it is full of merriment, so why should anyone object. It fulfils its purpose, and the company work very hard, the comedians are very amusing, and their dance through the stalls, in order to be thoroughly up to date, was very amusing. There are crowds of pretty girls, who look bewitching in their bathing costumes, and the whole thing, which is a riot of revelry, was greatly enjoyed by the audience.

Mr. J. C. Morris proves himself to be a comedian of merit, and goes strong with his song "You don't mind, do you?" A very charming and artistic turn is that of Argent and Gwynne, a lady and gentleman who are both accomplished vocalists, and they sing delightfully. Their rendering of the Barcarolle from "Tales of Hoffmann" was a fine effort, and they were loudly applauded. Maud Hersée goes well with her number, "Girls," and Frank Victor is very successful with his song "San Francisco," which has a chorus that soon catches the ear of the gallery. A dainty turn is that of Margaret Ismay and her white girls. They are very daintily dressed, and sing and dance excellently. Both their numbers, "Sunshade" and "In your snowhouse," are pretty songs, which are bound to be popular. A merry fellow is Chas. A. Henson, who sings of the "Moonlight" and indulges in many quaint jests, which set his audience laughing.

"Tapping Uncle" is the title of a little interlude played by Messrs. Fred Ring and J. W. Hooper. It is quite amusing, but needs working up here and there. However, it went well, and both score in it. Black faces and rag-time are the things at present, and Pearl and Roth present both in their capital turn. They sing several rag-time numbers vivaciously, and the pianist, who is a first-class musician, gives a rag-time selection, which brings down the house. Their selections on their one-stringed violins was also a popular item of their programme. Morris and Moore are a couple of clever clog-dancers, who can hold their own with any at that line of business. They have several methods, which are quite original, and their success was emphatic.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

One of the best and brightest illusion acts now on the road is that presented by Mlle. Palermo and Signor Chefalo. Audiences at the above hall are not slow to recognise a good thing when they get it, and the reception accorded to this clever couple on the night of our visit was most enthusiastic. Gill and Hall, two vocalists who really possess voices, are heard in the evergreen duets, "Alice, where art thou?" and "The Battle Eve," the latter number being sung in a very spirited and tuneful manner, which was duly appreciated. The Sisters Cora are a pleasing turn, whose two songs, "Sweet Sadie" and "The Cingalee" were heartily applauded. Harry Barford, assisted by Royston Keith and Miss Clarice Shirley, make the best of the rather poor material they handle in a not very amusing episode, "All Change Here."

A very cordial reception is accorded to the Four Elles for their distinctly clever terpsichorean act. Rosie Pink, a very dainty and attractive comedienne, fully deserved the very rapturous applause which greeted her at the conclusion of each of her two numbers, "You are my harbour of love" and "Rag-time cowboy Joe." The latter number she followed with a clever and diverting dance. Altogether, a very pleasing turn. Jack Pleasants, in his own peculiar style, warbles three ditties, "I've been out all night, to-night," "I've never been married before," and "In rag-time," all of which were well received.

One of the strongest dramatic sketches we have seen is "The Big Joss," presented by Mary Mayfren and George Pickett's company. The following quotation from the programme aptly supplies the keynote to the plot:—"You may play with a bear or nurse a rattlesnake and come off free, but don't get monkeying with Chows—t'aint safe." The company is an all-round good one, the best representation being Mr. Geo. Pickett's Tong Li, the Chinese saloon keeper, which was a fine piece of acting. The little drama was followed with keen interest.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

A capital bill and an interesting competition in the bargain at this popular hall are having the effect of taxing the resources of the house to the utmost capacity. Marriot Edgar has temporarily discarded his familiar attire, and in the guise of a dame is dispensing wit and wisdom with very happy results. Mabel Osborne, comedienne, appears very successfully in the well-known ballad, "My heart is with you to-night." Bellew and Stocks' company, with Master Edward Garrett, are appearing in their well-known playlet, "Mortimer Magnus, M.P." This is a more or less improbable concoction, which affords the principal performers every scope. It was played to a running accompaniment of laughter, the Misses Florence Lynn and Edith Burrell and Mr. Harry Norton giving excellent support. The show was well received.

Daisy Dormer is also in the bill, singing two numbers, "I do like you, Susie," and "Rag-time cowboy Joe." The artiste proves very popular, but the latter song suits her best, a clever dance being appreciated. Will Musgrave also does well in one song. Will Evans and Co. are appearing in a new comedy episode, "The Wrong Flat." J. W. Rickaby proves one of the hits of the programme. He sings a clever parody of a descriptive song as his first number, and follows this with his now well-known "Rag-time navvy." This is a clever item, and the artiste does full justice to it. Belle Davis and her Cracker Jacks present their popular dancing act, and the agility of the children still remains a matter for wonder. The Poluskis are also appearing, and for a very lengthy period succeeded in keeping the house in the best of humours, their reception at the close being particularly hearty. Lloyd Morgan, a smart light comedian, goes well in "I saw Peter Henry home."

The feature of paramount interest is, of course, the competition under the auspices of "Reynolds's Newspaper." We understand that something like 180 entries have been made, and a goodly proportion faced the ordeal on the evening of our visit. The net result went to prove that the ambition of the competitors overstepped their talent, nothing striking in the way of hidden ability being forthcoming.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

A capitally arranged entertainment is being well supported here this week, and many of our best stars contribute to a pleasant evening's amusement. Mr. Harry Lauder, the great Scotch comedian, is making his first appearance here after his most successful American tour, and to say that he immediately captures the hearty goodwill of the audience is scarcely necessary, for he does that wherever he goes. However, we will say that he had a right royal reception on the night of our visit, and found no difficulty whatever in amusing with three of his excellent numbers, "The Portobello lassie," "It's nice to get up in the morning," and "When I come back I will marry you," the latter being a fine military song delivered with distinct humour.

Madge Allan scores heavily in her rag-time number, "The ghost and the violin," and her excellent and powerful voice enables her to carry the song through with great success. To see and hear Billy Merson in his quaint conceptions of humour is more than sufficient to raise a scream of wild and uncontrollable laughter. His song, "Out on the prairie," is a positive roar from start to finish, and with the assistance of his dummy horse he keeps things pretty lively the whole time he occupies the stage. Miss Jennie Alexander is a clever juvenile comedienne and mimic. Her impersonations are really realistic, and the applause she obtains is indeed cordial. The Six Geisha Girls have a capital singing and dancing scena. They are prettily dressed, and prove of considerable value in their own special department.

Ryder Slone does remarkably well in the song, "Heaven help the sailors," and is much appreciated; whilst the Whittakers, who appear in their comedy sketch, "Dick Whittington," keep the audience in a good humour with their cleverly arranged burlesque. A great favourite here is Mr. Whit Cunliffe. He is full of life and enlivens all who see him. His songs are always full of dash and go, and the choruses have a swing with them which is quite irresistible. He sings two numbers; firstly, "They're all lovely by the sea," and in the second place his old and great success, song, "On Moonlight Bay," was nicely rendered, and a clever dance followed, her reception being very deservedly cordial.

Johnston Clark submits a very finished ventriloquial act. The patter in this is smart, and several curtains were accorded at the close. Harry May Hemsley is not only a very clever cartoonist, but he is in addition a distinctly talented child impersonator. He fits both accomplishments into his enjoyable turn. King and Benson made one of the distinct hits of the programme. There is an abundance of high spirits in their performance, which is quite infectious. The lady possesses to a great degree the great art of making with consummate ease all the points in her songs, and the gentleman displayed a good voice to great advantage in a couple of songs. Their reception was demonstrative, the encore being resisted with difficulty.

Mr. Fred Emney and Miss Sydney Fairbrother are presenting their very popular episode, "A Sister to Assist 'Er." This entertaining trifle which deals so amusingly with the subject of feminine duplicity, caused the heartiest laughter of the evening, both artistes giving strikingly truthful studies of two very distinct types of women. The Bioscope, in local events, proves interesting, and Mr. Harry Rathay's fine orchestra contribute in no small measure to the pleasure of the evening. Mr. George Macleod, the acting-manager, and Mr. Watchhorn, his lieutenant, are both courteous and attentive in front.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

A visit on Monday evening to this very popular place of entertainment found a large audience well amused and interested in the numerous and spirited and excellently played sketch, which allows the audience to depart feeling very satisfied with the programme. The orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Charles Windish.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Brightness and gaiety are the prevailing features of the short, but mirthful programme presented by Mr. Charles Marte here this week. Mr. Fred Camp and his orchestra open the ball with a capital rendering of Rossini's ever-popular overture to "William Tell." Bert Danson makes his mark as a burlesque comedian. Loud laughter and great applause follow the doings of Rokby, who is well styled the "eccentric master of comedy eccentricities." He is very resourceful in mirth-making, and he does not give his audience breathing time between the laughs. The handsome Miss Edith England is the fortunate possessor of a contralto voice of great power and compass.

One of the very best, and perhaps the most popular turn, is that of the Gothams, whose singing, acting, and dancing are well received. A big success is made by Alice Craven, "a comedienne fra Lancashire," who is a perfect bundle of mirth and drollery. Miss Craven undoubtedly makes one of the "palpable hits" of the evening.

What can be said of Harry Randall that has not been said hundreds of times? Harry is still in the best of form, and his two songs, "Sunday language" and "I don't want tables," both go with a bang. The Carbrey Boys, "America's representative terpsichoreans," are amazingly clever dancers with almost limitless ingenuity and lightness of foot. Their "staying powers" will of the audience is scarcely necessary, for he does that wherever he goes. However, we will say that he had a right royal reception on the night of our visit, and found no difficulty whatever in amusing with three of his excellent numbers, "The Portobello lassie," "It's nice to get up in the morning," and "When I come back I will marry you," the latter being a fine military song delivered with distinct humour.

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A REVIEW OF REVUES.

The activities of the Star Music Co. seem practically untiring, for in the latest of the revues, "Eightpence a Mile," at the Alhambra, Leicester-square, charming Miss Ella Retford sings no fewer than three numbers published by this "pushful" firm, to wit: "Hey, ho, can't you hear the steamer?" "All the girls are lovely by the seaside," and "That ripping rag" (the last-named with words specially adapted to the striking and already popular melody). At the Empire, the ball is still kept merrily rolling for the Star Co., in Mr. C. H. Bovill's success, "All the Winners," by Miss Ida Crispi, who makes the undoubted hit of the show with her great artistic effort, "Running wild," and her exhilarating lilt, "Hallo, little Miss U.S.A."; while Eric Blore, in the same production, scores heavily with a third Star number, "Everybody's doing it at the seaside." Furthermore, Miss Ida Crispi has in active preparation for immediate inclusion in the Monte Carlo scene Carlisle and Wellmon's fine new number, "My new dance," and in the same scene Miss Crispi and Mr. Lionel Mackinder will dance the same composers' quaint "Fascee dance," which Mr. Fred Farren has specially arranged. Both these last-named numbers are also published by the Star Co.

In addition to the Empire, "Hallo, little Miss U.S.A.," Fred Godfrey and Harry Gifford's masterpiece looms large in many important productions in town and country. King C. Cole's U.S.A. Minstrel Melody Maids made a great success with this number at New Cross Empire, last Monday night, while such fine shows as "Ragmania" and "What ho, rag-time" are making this their specially featured number. Again, several pominent music hall artistes, such as Miss Daisy Dormer and the Sisters Reeve, are making "Hallo, Little Miss U.S.A." the principal number in their répertoires. Of course, as everybody knows, this is a Star publication.

"Hey, ho, can't you hear the steamer?" has a very delightful exponent in Miss Daisy Dormer, who is at Islington and Kilburn this week. Statuesque Miss Alexandra Dagmar will produce this great number at the Empress, Brixton, next week. In addition to its inclusion in the new Alhambra revue, this fine Godfrey and Gifford number is an integral part of Mr. Austen Hurgon's "What ho, rag-time," also of the Palladium Minstrels' fine show, on tour, and the American Rag-time Octette are also featuring this excellent song, which is published by the Star.

It is very unusual for one star singer to give another permission to sing his most popular song, but this has been the case with Harry Fragson's wonderfully successful number, "All the girls are lovely by the seaside," written by Worton David and Bert Lee, and melodised by the clever all-round artiste himself, which Whit Cunliffe is blithely chortling at the Olympia, Shoreditch, and Camberwell, nightly, to a running accompaniment of roars of hearty laughter. The Star Co. are specially lucky in the artistes who render their publications. The genial Fragson is himself rendering the above-named song in Paris this week, where he is also singing his other great Star triumph, "If they'd bury Alexander's band."

Miss Kitty Clinton, who is at the Empire, Newcastle, this week, is successful to a degree with the Star Music Co.'s fine new ballad, by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, entitled "Time will always bring forgiveness," which is applauded to the echo. Miss Clinton is also greatly enamoured of Mills and Scott's other beautiful ballad, "When love creeps in your heart," which she will produce at an early date, as also A. J. Mills and Maurice Scott's "There's a gentleman here to-night." The two last-named songs are also Star publications.

There are, perhaps, no daintier or cleverer duettists on the variety stage than the Sisters Reeve, who are making an unprecedented success at the Hippodrome, Manchester, this week with the Star Co.'s two superb numbers, "Hallo, little Miss U.S.A." and "When love creeps in your heart." These two charming vocalists excel both in syncopated songs and those of sentiment, and in the Star numbers mentioned they are fitted to perfection.

Miss Cissie Thompson has found a splendid vehicle for the display of her energy and vocal and acting ability in Mills and Scott's fine Star song, "So we all went walking round," one of the big hits of the week, at the Empire, Swansea. Several other fine artistes are singing this fine song, notably Fred Barnes, who is at Croydon this week. The Star Co. are giving a few special permits and band parts are now ready.

It is now acknowledged in professional circles that far and away the finest stirring ballad of a semi-military, yet pathetic, nature is that magnificent story of the love of an aged mother for her hero son, by Weston Barnes and Maurice Scott, entitled "My boy," first launched on the tide of popularity by Mmes. May Mars and Carlotta Levey, and still being sung successfully by the latter at all her engagements. A limited number of special permissions are being given for this fine number for music halls, and printed band parts will be ready shortly.

Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe, whose season of twenty weeks at the Pier Pavilion, Llandudno, commences to-night (Saturday), will make a special feature of the Star Co.'s new dainty number, "Little Miss Demure," by Harrington and Hemley, author and composer of his last year's biggest song, "Little Shepherdess of Devon," of which Mr. Sutcliffe sold some thousands of copies in Llandudno alone. This favourite singer hopes to go one better with "Little Miss Demure" this season. Alvin Sawyer and George H. Elliott's companies at Troon, Largs and West Kilbride are also specially featuring this number, which is Miss Elise Malpass' *pièce de résistance* at Wood Green this week.

One of the finest syncopated numbers published by the Star Co. is Tony Martin's delightful song, "San Francisco." To get a good idea of a really first-class rag-time number, sung in really first-class style, one should pay a visit to the Bedford to-night, what time Frank Victor occupies the stage, and conviction will dawn on the most sceptical that in "San Francisco" the Star Co. possess one of the big potential rag-time winners of the year.

Miss Nancy Langtyre, who is making a very great success at Stafford this week with the Star Co.'s quaint number, "Hush-a-by, my little papoose," will make this one of her principal numbers during her forthcoming season with Fred Allandale, at the Central Pier, Blackpool, which commences on Monday next. She is also singing several other special Star publications.

Owing to its great success recently at the Liverpool Olympia, when 150,000 people witnessed it in three weeks, "The Miracle" will pay a fortnight's return visit on June 9.

Mr. Sinclair Neill will produce at Olympia, Shoreditch, on Monday evening, a strong tabloid version of "David Garrick," in two scenes. New scenery, costumes, &c., have been specially designed for this production. Mr. Neill will play Garrick, Miss Alice Miller Ada, supported by a powerful company.

As harmonising numbers for alfresco work, the Star Co. publish a quartette of numbers which may be specially recommended, viz., the Palladium Minstrels' great song for the kiddies, "Off we go to by-bye-land," Miss Jen Latona's and the Palladium Minstrels' "Hark! it is the thunder-man," "Mister Shadow Man," and "Go away, Mister Misery." All of these should be very big hits at the seaside this season.

"Mr. Cupid." The applause at the conclusion of his performance is quite enthusiastic. Clark and Mostol have some amusing patter, and dance exceedingly well, and Mr. Tom Woottwell provides a volume of humour in his capital rendering of his particularly droll number, "Watching the barges go by."

An attractive playlet, "Only a Butterfly," is presented by Miss Rose Atherton and company. The piece has a serious side, which makes its lighter moments stand out with greater boldness. One moment we are in the midst of tragedy, dark and dread; the next we are laughing heartily at this same incident when it is shown to us from a different point of view. The sketch is capitally enacted, and is much appreciated. The entertainment concludes with a rag-time competition.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The advent of open-air amusements is having no apparent effect on the attendances at this popular hall, a capital audience being present on the evening of our visit. The reason was not difficult to discover, the bill being sufficient to ensure big attendances. Lotto, Lito, and Otto open the programme in their well-known cycling act, and win plenty of very hearty applause for their very clever trick riding. The football match also aroused interest. H. O. Wills appears in one song, "Higher and higher," and goes very well. Fred Karno's company are also a popular attraction in their production "Mumming Birds." This has a new and elaborate stage setting, and the humorous travesty of a vaudeville programme caused plenty of laughter. All the company work hard, and the fun is kept moving briskly. Adele Moraw is achieving her usual success. This lady is vivacity itself, and speedily placed herself on the best of terms with the audience. Nellie Boden is a capital comedienne and dancer. Her judiciously selected turns put before them by the capable and experienced manager, Mr. David James, jun., whose efforts have made the Kilburn Empire one of the most popular halls in the suburbs of London. The present week's programme is no exception to the rule of giving the best. The opening turn is given by Mr. Tom Moore, comedian, who, in a song entitled "He's my pal," extols the virtues of, and support obtained from, his walking stick. He is followed by Gladys and Alber, a couple who sing and dance very cleverly, and are at the same time amusing.

Messrs. Naughton and Gold, a pair of extra-comical comedians, keep the audience in roars of laughter, particularly the one who insists on interpolating in their song the words, "And the second house begins at nine o'clock." An exceedingly graceful performance on the slack wire is contributed by Mlle. Yetta, who meets with much applause. As a boy in buttons Happy Tom Parker sings of his experiences at a ladies' school, and subsequently sings of "Good old Nosey Parker."

Horace Goldin, the eminent illusionist, presents his performance in three series, in the first of which he imitates magicians of past centuries. His changes are cleverly arranged, and the tricks are amazing. In the second series he performs his "miracles" with remarkable celerity, keeping the audience breathless with astonishment. The third of the series is the Moorish mystery, entitled "The Tiger God."

A favourite turn here is Mr. Barclay Gammon and his piano. Mr. Gammon's topical subject is a very clever musical hit at the rag-time craze, which goes down splendidly. Miss Dainty Daisy Dormer, in "If you belonged to me," with its catching refrain, and "Rag-time cowboy Joe," which she enlivens by revolver shooting and a lively dance, is always acceptable, and meets with a popular reception. "Dear old George," played by Fred Moule and company, proves to be a very are simply marvellous. Harry Nelson is a comedian of considerable humour and an unctuous manner. The very latest thing in the irrepressible rag-time dancing—"the real thing"—is supplied by the Texas Tommy Dancers. The daring nature of their performance must, to use an expression that has seen service, "be seen to be believed." The manner in which the dancers throw themselves and each other about, the perfect whirlwind of gyration in which they indulge, ladies and gentlemen alike, apparently struggling in their vehement efforts to kill their partners right away, is bewildering. The performance is received with unbounded applause. The Palace Bioscope winds up a capital bill with the usual clever pictures.

CHARITY MATINEE AT THE OXFORD.

Under the auspices of the Islington Charities Committee, a matinée was given at the Oxford on Thursday in aid of the funds of the Great Northern Central Hospital. The matinée was under distinguished patronage, amongst those present being the Duke of Argyll, K.T., Lady Archibald Campbell, Charlotte Lady Rodney, Lady Cecil, the Hon. Mrs. Sturdy, and the Hon. Mrs. Baggalley, and the Mayors of Islington, Hammersmith, Paddington, Marylebone, and Fulham.

The programme arranged by Mr. Blyth Pratt, manager of the Oxford, was contributed to by the McNaughtons, Coakley, Hauvey and Dunlevy, Adele Levey, Maie Hoey, the Two Bobs, Chas. Stevens, Marie Lloyd, the Dulcet Trio, Neil Kenyon, Mike S. Whallen, Burton and Ashley, Frankie Drew, Daisy James, Lena Kent, Jake Friedman, the Miles Stavordale Quartette, the Juggling Geraldos, and Alexander's Rag-time Band. The duties of musical-director were shared by Mr. Leon Bassett, Mr. James Sale, and Mr. Ross, of Collins's. Mr. John Green was stage-manager, and Mr. F. C. Upton assistant-manager. A number of lady members of the Charities Committee kindly acted as sellers of programmes, sweets, &c.

In the course of the afternoon, Alderman G. S. Elliott, the Mayor of Islington, who wore his robes of office, made his appearance on the stage, accompanied by Councillors L. Peskett, H. Trounce, H. E. Butcher, members of the Reception Committee, and Messrs. E. W. Sack and P. S. Riebold, hon. secretaries. He proposed a vote of thanks to the Duke of Argyll, and the audience generally, for their kind patronage. Referring to the duties which devolved upon a mayor, he said that nothing gave him greater delight than to give his assistance in the cause of charity, and more particularly to help the sick poor.

Councillor H. Trounce, chairman of the Charities Committee, proposed a vote of thanks to the artistes who had so kindly given their services, and to Mr. Blyth Pratt and the staff of the Oxford, without whose cordial co-operation the matinée could not have taken place. He specially mentioned the valuable services which had been rendered by Mr. Blyth Pratt, who had done so much to render the matinée a success. Mr. Blyth Pratt then came forward and briefly acknowledged the vote of thanks. He said that at first he was a little doubtful about the success of the matinée, as it was held outside the Borough of Islington, but the experiment had proved completely successful, and he believed that the proceeds would exceed the amount raised by the last matinée given by the committee at Finsbury Park Empire, in aid of the Great Northern Hospital, an announcement that was received with loud applause.

THE GAIETIES AT EALING.

It seems very summer-like at Ealing this week, for Mr. Wilson James' famous concert party are doing their best to make everybody merry and bright. After the splendid programmes that the Ealing patrons have been presented with during the last few weeks, it certainly seemed a big undertaking for Mr. James, but judging from the whole-hearted appreciation of the audience they appear to be in for a successful season. The programme opens with the usual ensemble of the whole company, and Mr. Wilson James soon sets the ball rolling merrily with his "Lubbly girl," after which Miss Gertrude Hart and Mr. Frank Henry scored well with the ear-haunting "Barcarolle" from "The Tales of Hoffmann." Another ensemble by the company was followed by a humorous sketch by Mr. Frank Leedam, entitled "Receipts." To be quite up to date, or should we say out of date, Miss Ruby Wilson contributed two rag-time songs—"Dixie" and "Hitchy koo." She also make a big hit in her duet with Mr. James, their number, "The old generation and the new," a very satirical number, the incidents of proposing marriage, and hat-buying, being particularly pleasing. Miss Gertrude Hart revealed the possession of a charming soprano voice, and fully deserved the applause accorded her efforts.

A capital rendering of "Good night, dear love" was given by Mr. Bernard Turner, who used his excellent tenor voice to great advantage, but his "Somewhere a voice is calling" given as an encore was perhaps even better, and fairly brought down the house. The next item was an ensemble by the Gaieties entitled "Love's lullaby," a screaming parody on the nursery song, "Hush-a-bye, baby." Mr. Wilson James then kept the audience bubbling with mirth with his quick-change musical scena, illustrating the different classes of lovers serenading their lady loves, his makes up being unique. The Gaieties then introduced their "Floral Scena," being musical representations of the beauties of the Indian Lotus, Sweet Lavender and the Edelweiss, and a short description of the customs of peoples of the countries in which these flowers grow. Their burlesque of the "Durbar" in connection with the "Lotus" was not very successful, but the two succeeding items were excellent in all respects. Dressed in Arcadian robes, Messrs. James, Henry and Leedam kept the audience laughing with their musical absurdity entitled "In Arcadia," a capitally executed act. Quite a novelty was the orchestral interlude (without the orchestra), whilst a very tuneful and humorous number was their "On the way to the Derby," being an excellent representation of the various types of people on the road to the classic race. The Gaieties are to be congratulated on their splendid show, both collectively and individually.

THE PAVILION, LEICESTER.

COMPENSATION LEVY REDUCTION.

At Leicester Borough Police Court, last week, Mr. Block, solicitor, London, made an application on behalf of the owners, although in the name of the licensees, of the Pavilion Music Hall, Leicester, for a reduction in the amount of compensation levied with regard to the excise licence. He stated that the levy was £60, on the basis of an annual value of from £500 to £600 per year. A similar application had been made previously, but since that time the conditions of the licence had materially altered. At present the business was only conducted during the hours of entertainment. For many years the premises enjoyed a full public-house licence, being open all day long. Besides being open only during the hours of entertainment, a further restriction was now in force, and drink was only sold in the bar. The total sales at the bar amounted to £30. He asked for a reduction of two-thirds of the amount they were now paying. The Head Constable (Mr. H. Allen) said the place was being conducted quite satisfactorily, the wishes of the magistrates being strictly carried out. The amount of the levy was reduced by one-third.

"Taree," an Australian musical bushman; the Denaro Bros., juvenile hand equilibrists; and "What a Pal," in burglary acts, are included in the programme this week at the Wallsend Borough Theatre.

J. D. Hunter's sketch company in a "3 to 1 Chance"; the Five Whiteleys, in wire walking, acrobatic, and musical melange; and Miss Lil's Juveniles, dancers, provide the entertainment at the Salisbury Palace this week.

MR. THORNLEY-DODGE.

It is always a gratifying matter to record the artistic success of a newcomer into the variety world, and when this achievement has been unanimously confirmed by both the Press and the public the appreciation accorded must be well deserved. These are the circumstances which surround the first appearance upon the London music hall stage of Mr. Thornley-Dodge, an entertainer in studies, skits, and sketches, whose diverting programme gained for him quick and popular approval at the London Pavilion last week.

"I am a Manchester man," remarked Mr. Thornley-Dodge to an "Era" representative; "and may I say, and with all modesty, I feel highly gratified at the immediate success which I learn I have just secured at the Pavilion, for I felt it no easy task to win the appreciation of the London public. For some years I occupied myself in the provinces with varied concert work, and during this period I developed a taste for the stage, and particularly in the direction of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. I commenced singing Gilbert's patter songs, and the result encouraged me to try my hand at entertaining audiences. Some," said Mr. Thornley-Dodge, with serious mien, "stood it very well. I carried my work into the camp of the Co-operative Societies' concerts—so well known in the North of England. I was well pleased with the success I achieved; and then I broke out in a new direction, and commenced to produce comic operas for various operatic societies. I found this new activity so congenial that I devoted several years to this class of work, being associated for long periods with the Bury (Lancs.) Operatic Society, the Blackpool Lyric, with the Brooklands (Manchester) Societies, and many others up and down the Kingdom.

"A very interesting engagement of mine was when I was a member of the Concert Party arranged by Mme. and M. Zancig. Another pleasant experience was my association with the late Ernest Carpenter, when I played in 'Caste,' etc. My friend's charming and clever young daughter, Marjory, was a member of the Concert Party which I organised last Summer in conjunction with Mr. C. H. Charlton, the well-known prestidigitateur. I had a very heavy engagement season during the past Winter throughout England, Scotland, and Wales."

"You certainly have not been indulging in much 'resting'!"

"That's so; but I have yet to relate my engagement for the part of the Earl of Essex in opera in Liverpool—for which performance I gained some very flattering Press notices. I returned to Town again early in the present year, and resumed entertainment work. Mr. Charles Kenyon was, in March last, kind enough to place the Little Theatre at my disposal, where I gave recitals. At one of the functions where I afterwards appeared (at the Waldorf Hotel, to be exact) I had the pleasure of meeting Miss Henriquette Maude and Mr. Meredith Fradd; an introduction to Mr. Frank Glenister (most courteous and considerate of managers) followed—and the

MR. THORNLEY-DODGE.

outcome was my engagement to appear at the London Pavilion. I am now booked nearly solid up to 1916, and Messrs. F. and H. Reeves, the well-known vaudeville agents, are now handling my business affairs.

"As a newcomer to the halls, perhaps I may be allowed to express my sincere appreciation of the kindness I am meeting from all with whom I come into contact, and my acknowledgments to my excellent accompanist, Mr. Harry Collman."

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Attractions here this week are varied and each in its way, draw. Miss Clarice Mayne is, of course, a huge favourite, and, with the assistance of "It," continues to win roars of applause; and no one can grudge it after listening to her dainty, cheery ditty, "A little country girl." Fred Russell maintains his reputation, and his hand—or should we say his gift?—has lost none of its cunning; on the contrary, he ventriloquises with Coster Joe in an inimitable way, and the miniature coster scores all along the line. Max Laube gives some wonderful imitations of birds; and Heeley and Meeley prove a couple of droll dogs in a mirth-provoking act. A great reception is accorded Lucille Benstead, possessing a superb voice and showing it to perfection in the operatic selections.

"The Broken Mirror" relies on its success for the ability of those engaged. No one can say the Schwarz Brothers do not do justice to it; the house was convulsed with merriment, and applauded the brothers to the echo. "A Night at the Pantomime" gives miniature Freddie Hackin an opportunity to display his versatility; he succeeds beyond question. Others on the bill this week include Hal Berte, the elastic comedian and funny acrobat, and May Edney. The fine orchestra does justice to Rossini's "William Tell"; and the Bioscope picture, "An interrupted honeymoon," is good. All goes well at the Chiswick Empire.

Princess Alexander of Teck has for many years given away the prizes at the annual musical competitions at the People's Palace. On Saturday, accompanied by H.R.H. the Duke of Teck, the Princess was welcomed by the hon. secretary, Miss Edith Barran, and the Mayors of Stepney and Poplar in their official robes, and proceeded at once to distribute the many beautiful prizes and silver cups. Following the prize-giving came an excellent concert. The silver challenge cup for small choral societies, (kindly given by T.R.H. the Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck), and music was taken by St. Mary's, who gave a very good rendering of Brahms's "Love fare thee well." Miss Leila Duart's singing of Elgar's "Moonlight song" Quilter's "Blackbird," and M. V. White's "Farewell song" contributed to the success of the evening.

POPULAR ARTISTE'S WEDDING.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT MARRIED.

The latest romance of the stage is the marriage of Mr. G. H. Elliott, the popular chocolate-coloured coon, with Miss Emilie Hayes, another well-known and deservedly popular artiste. The marriage was of a particularly quiet nature, and was carried out with remarkable secrecy; in fact, it was not until some days had elapsed that Mr. Elliott's many friends were given an opportunity of tendering their congratulations.

The marriage took place at a registry office in London on Saturday last. Mr. Elliott was performing at Coventry Hippodrome, and motored to town to meet his bride. After the ceremony they returned to Coventry, and on Sunday proceeded to Blackpool, where Mr. Elliott is working this week.

Mr. Elliott's rise to the top of the tree in the vaudeville world is one of the most interesting stories to be found in the annals of the stage, for he sprang into fame from being a

MISS EMILIE HAYES.

comparatively unknown boy vocalist. He made his bow at the footlights when quite young, and played in the United States of America and in Canada with Agnes Hearndon and with Marguerite Mather (a well-known American actress at that time). He played Little Lord Fauntleroy in America, and, besides musical dramas, he appeared in "The Pulse of New York," "The Police Patrol," and various others, to be followed by successful appearances in the celebrated Primrose and West's minstrel company.

The latter was evidently where he found his metier, for he conceived straight away an ardent affection for the coon business; in fact, so much so, that he began to literally live the life of a real coon, getting the while an intimate knowledge of their individualities, and making a complete study of them and their peculiarities. It is to this knowledge that he owes his present remarkable popularity. Favoured with an exceptionally pleasant voice and unusual dancing abilities, he could not fail to become a favourite of the first rank. He is loved by all classes of the audience, and in most theatres the "gods" practically worship him.

Up to three years ago Miss Hayes had earned an enviable reputation as a concert artiste, her clear, powerful soprano voice being greatly admired by all who heard her. As an alfresco artiste she was also very prominent, but it was not until two years ago, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, that she earned distinction as a pantomime principal girl. It was in this particular performance that she and Mr. Elliott performed together, their individual items and duets being striking features of the production.

Last year they were again together in pantomime, at the Theatre Royal, Wimbledon, for

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT.

Messrs. J. F. Graham and Milton Bode, and, incidentally, they are engaged to appear at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, next year.

Mr. Ernest Crampton's "Cigarettes," including Miss Madge Lytton, Mollie Aldridge, Winnie Gee, Mr. Herbert Williams, Jack Rickards, and Horace Manger, are playing this week at the Ryde Theatre Royal

Despite the inclemency of the weather, Mr. Charles Boult's concert pavilion at the Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry, continues to be patronised by large and appreciative audiences. With characteristic enterprise Mr. Boult has secured for this week the services of the talented concert party, the So-and-So's, under the direction of Mr. Eric Fielding. The company includes Miss Maude Phillips, a charming contralto vocalist; Miss Ethel Beech, a comedienne and dancer of decided ability; Miss Alice Travers, an exceptionally sweet soprano, who also accompanies at the piano; Mr. Eric Fielding, a comedian of merit; Mr. Laurence Surney, eccentric comedian; Mr. Wensley Russell, a mirth-maker of the first order; and Stuart Fraser, a very effective baritone.

SOUTH AFRICAN ENTERPRISES.

AUSTRALIAN MANAGER'S EXPERIENCES.

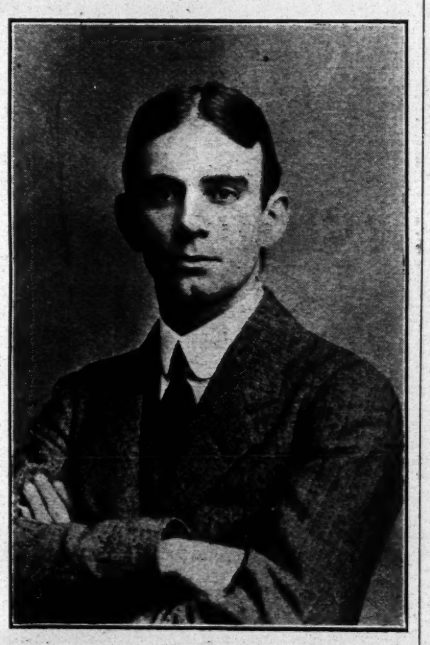
Mr. Beaumont Smith, the Australian theatrical manager, who arrived by the "Briton" from South Africa last Saturday, walked into the Offices of "The Era" one day this week, bearing the sunburn of the Southern Seas upon his genial countenance. He has been in Africa during the past three months with "Tiny Town," one of his enterprises that recently completed a fifteen months' tour of Australasia. He comes to London to arrange his attractions for the latter part of this year, 1914 and 1915, for Australasia, South Africa, and Canada.

His first offering to Canada and the Western Slope of U.S.A., which places he is just adding to his field of operations, will be "Tiny Town," a remarkable village of miniature men and women averaging thirty inches high. The village is mostly composed of Zeynard's Lilliputians, who, it will be recalled, fulfilled successful engagements a few seasons ago at both the London Coliseum and Hippodrome, and who are now completing an engagement of 150 weeks with Mr. Smith. "Tiny Town" is accounted the finest and most successful midget city that has ever been presented.

Mr. R. B. Young, who recently toured Ada Crossley, the Besses o' the Barn Band, Nicola, and others, in Africa, left England for America this week to act as general manager for Mr. Beaumont Smith there, and his representative in Africa is Mr. Maurice Ralph. Mr. Smith was formerly a journalist, and he speaks entertainingly regarding the position of theatrical affairs in South Africa and Australasia. During an interesting conversation with "The Era" representative, the young and enthusiastic Australian remarked:—

"Africa is a remarkable country in many respects, but, theatrically, it is suffering somewhat from too rapid growth. It is outgrowing its strength—that is to say, it has not at present the theatregoers to support the expensive and numerous entertainments offered. I have just been through every town of any importance, and also a terrible lot of towns that were of no consequence at all. Please understand that I do not advance this opinion without proper judgment and consideration; nor do I speak with prejudice or because I failed with some attraction. On the contrary, I had the pleasure of doing the most consistent and profitable business with 'Tiny Town' that has been known there. But I say this—the country is over-catered for, and that a Vaudeville lunacy is affecting and has affected speculative Vaudeville people.

"Though the greatest Vaudeville Circuit in Africa has failed chiefly through the heavy expenses, another big Vaudeville show has started. With increased expenditure, caused by more competition, one naturally wonders what is going to be the end. The position is an interesting one to watch—from afar. The cause of this unsatisfactory state of finances is the extravagant enterprise of Vaude-



[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. BEAUMONT SMITH.

ville managers, who endeavour to give London Empire, Coliseum, Alhambra, Palladium, and Palace shows to a country that only has a million white people, and whose biggest town has only a little over 100,000 white people. Some have involved themselves heavily with Circuits, of which four out of five houses do not pay. Others haven't a Circuit, and are unwise enough to think they can make Vaudeville pay with one or two houses in Johannesburg, with its limited population and stupendous all-round opposition (including an ever-increasing number of Picture Palaces), and with no outlets for their artistes in the country. They bring artistes out for six, eight, or ten weeks, and the artistes have to spend six weeks in travelling. By the look of things, Vaudeville is now being run in Africa for the benefit of artistes and the self-satisfaction of a group of financiers who seem to treat it as a hobby! One does not blame artistes for taking such benefits or gifts, but people who support these enterprises get tired of giving.

"In an interview in Johannesburg the day I left I expressed all of these views, and some more," seriously added Mr. Smith; "and said the only way to put theatrical business on a satisfactory basis in Africa was an amalgamation. It would mean a big saving in expenditure, the abandonment of a cut-throat policy between managers, and satisfaction everywhere.

"Africa can take up a show as wholeheartedly as any country, but my opinion is that if you have an attraction that you think suits, run it through quickly, and then run away. A boom to-day will probably be the failure of to-morrow. Mr. R. B. Young, who is with me (having just resigned as general manager of the Palladium, Johannesburg), recently took the American magician, Nicola, through the country, and he made a boom that people haven't done talking about yet. But Nicola's brother came along after, and did very badly. 'In quick and out quick' should be the theatrical watchword for Africa. Australia is different. It is a country where they will pay you fairly and treat you fairly. And you get long engagements if you suit. I recently toured a show that did fifteen months without a change.

"I shall only be in Europe a few months, as I must be back in Australia by September. I have, I may say, no connection at all with any other organisation in Australia or Africa. I make all my contracts personally, and have no representatives."

The representation of "The Miracle" has drawn crowded houses to the Empire, Bury St. Edmunds. The special choir engaged rendered the beautiful music admirably, and the proscenium, fitted up to represent a cathedral, added greatly to a production on which the manager, Mr. S. Frank, is to be complimented.

THE DISPUTE AT THE OLYMPIA, GLASGOW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Dear Sir,—Kindly grant me space through your columns to reply to the notes of "B" in last Wednesday's issue, April 30, under headline "Orchestra." Such statements as those written by "B" are likely to create a wrong impression with your readers.

Your correspondent states there has been a rift in the lute between members of the A.M.U. and certain non-members at the Olympia Theatre, Glasgow. I deny that any grievance exists between the members of the A.M.U. (who only number five) and the members of the N.F.P.M. (who number seven) in the said orchestra.

Your correspondent states that the A.M.U. objected to play with non-members. I was unaware the A.M.U. was an "instrumentalist." I think "B" means the members of the A.M.U. in that orchestra, and if that be his meaning, then I say it is a misstatement. The members of both organisations worked most harmoniously together, and but for the interference of persons who have no legal right to interfere they would be doing so now.

"B" states the manager undertook to see the non-members of the A.M.U. and use his influence to get them to join that union. Permit me to correct your correspondent. The manager undertook to interview the members of the N.F.P.M. (also a registered trade union, No. 1398) and to hear their side of the question. He did not state he would use his influence to get them to leave the N.F.P.M. and join the A.M.U., and he does not intend to do so.

Allow me to point out to your correspondent "B" that the petition in a summary court for continuance of interim interdict was not an attempt to get the Court to annul the terms of the Trades Dispute Act, but to get an opinion of what constituted a trade dispute. No, No, Mr. "B," the public will not be bluffed by such statements. The act is equally useful to N.F.P.M. and A.M.U., and it was not made for any *one trade union* to have preference over another, but for all and sundry. It does not give power to any trade union to insist upon persons joining any particular trade union. If there are two or three trade unions for the protection of any calling or industry a person is quite free to make his choice to which one he should attach himself, and to claim the protection of the law, including "the Trades Dispute Act of 1906," from any attempt made by any person or society to injure him at his business, or his right to work.

Now I claim there is no trade dispute at the Olympia Theatre, Glasgow. The members of that orchestra are all trade unionists and attached to either the N.F.P.M. or A.M.U., the house is a fair one, paying the standard rate of pay laid down by both organisations. Sheriff Glegg did not state that the action of the defendants was within the meaning of the Trades Dispute Act, 1906. His decision was that the petitioners had not shown that the action of the defendants was not within the Trades Dispute Act. . . . .

Your correspondent states that the N.F.P.M. is not a recognised trade union, and that it is not affiliated to the Glasgow Trades Council. I may point out there are several trades unions which are not affiliated to that body, and that affiliation to that body does not constitute a recognised or unrecognised trade union. The law of the land has registered the N.F.P.M. and many other unions, and has recognised it as a trade union by so doing, and therefore gives the N.F.P.M. the protection of the law as much as it does the A.M.U. . . . .

If "B" would turn his attention to the using of every means to bring about a working agreement with the different organisations for musicians instead of wasting his time endeavouring to make the gap wider, and annul the good work being done by other organisations, he might be of some service to the musical profession.

With the musicians of Great Britain federated a respectable minimum wage could be obtained. At the present time, after twenty years' existence of one society, and about the same of another, also six of another, the minimum is below that of the chorister section of the A.M.U. It is time the musicians of Great Britain wakened up to the real objects of the trade union movement for musicians, viz., to obtain a respectable minimum wage and provide work for all depending upon their art as a means to subsistence, and to effectually deal with the question of the "two jobber." This can only be done by a combined effort on the part of all existing organisations for musicians. Whether "B" likes it or not, this must happen before any real and lasting good can be done. The longer it is delayed the longer we remain in the rut.—I am, yours truly,

WEE FREDDIE.

May 2.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

In a good all-round programme at the Kingston Empire this week one of the best turns is that of Mr. Alfred Lester, who appears in his sketch, "A Restaurant Episode," in which he is ably assisted by Miss Buena Bent. Mr. Lester was irresistibly funny as the waiter in the restaurant, and during the twenty minutes the sketch lasted the audience were kept in a continual state of merriment. Another very excellent turn was that of Coram, the military ventriloquist, with his "new recruit." Coram, who is one of the best ventriloquists who has ever appeared at Kingston, made a great hit, and was encored at each performance. Equally successful was Frank Maura, described as "the Mexican Wonder," who, lying upon his back, performed marvels in the way of spinning balls, tables, and chairs on his feet with the utmost ease and without a single mistake. The whole performance was so easily gone through that the audience recalled him several times. The Sisters Holman, duettists and dancers, displayed considerable grace and skill in the terpsichorean art, and won the plaudits of the audience; and Ada Cerito, comedienne, was also successful in her songs, "We all got into the motor-car" and "He's saving up his overtime for me." The Romanys gave a very artistic turn, in which they display considerable skill upon various brass instruments; and there also appeared in the programme Foreman and Fannan, comedians; Gordon Lassie, in Scottish songs; and the Empire Pictorial Chronicle.

"CRIPPLE CREEK" AT SHOREDITCH.

The popular sketch, "Cripple Creek," dealing with Western life, is still making good all along the line. No matter where it is performed, its success is assured, and if the reception accorded it during its presentation at the Olympia, Shoreditch, this week, is any criterion, a long life is ahead of it. This is not to be wondered at when we consider how excellently it is played throughout. Miss Helena Millais is the accomplished young artiste who controls the sketch, and, picturesquely attired as a typical Western cowgirl, she looks very charming, and captivates all beholders. Ample opportunities are allowed her to show her histrionic abilities, and either as the genial, good-natured girl, or as a woman defending her honour, she is excellent. It would indeed be difficult to improve upon her performance. A capital company give her valuable support, headed by Mr. Wm. Fraser Brunner, who presents a fine performance of the scoundrel, Jim Fenner. The remainder of the cast are all experienced artistes. Unfortunately, no names were mentioned on the programme, so we cannot individualise. All are, however, deserving of high praise, and the scenery deserves special mention.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 8.)

MEXBOROUGH.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., The Empire Palace (Mexborough); M. D., Messrs. Thomas E. Fox and Arthur Cunningham; R. M., Mr. George Beverley; Mus. D., Mr. Oscar Haigh.—This week (twice nightly): The Watucaulems; Lena Bluette, soprano; Harvey and Stanton in "The Lunatics' Dilemma"; pictures. Picture matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; M., Mr. W. L. Knight; Mus. D., Mr. G. W. Simpson.—This week: Hymar and Metford, dancers; Little Violette, male impersonator and dancer; Arthur Croxton, in songs and burlesque; Omega Trio, equilibrists; Marion Broom, mezzo-soprano; Merry Demons, comedy speciality; and pictures.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — L., Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough; G. M., Mr. J. Charles Imeson; A. M., Mr. Cecil C. Imeson.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Cyril Maude presents "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Mr. Colin M. Johnston, Mr. Lowe Mackenzie, Mr. Anthony Calder, Mr. A. P. Roxburgh, Mr. Jas. Duncan, Miss Adah Dick, Mrs. Arthur Yates, Miss Winnie Smith, Mrs. Ross Campbell, Miss Stella Campbell. Preceded each evening by "The Price of Coal." Next week: The Middlesbrough Amateur Operatic Society present "Dorothy."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; A. M., Mr. George Imeson.—This week: Dottridge, Longden, and Leill's company in "The Midnight Mail." Cast includes: Mr. Albert Sinclair, Mr. Bernard Liell, Mr. Chas H. Longden, Mr. Edward Vivian, Mr. Warburton, Mr. Leighton, Mr. Williams, Mr. Harry Emerson, Mr. J. Mann, Mr. G. Ford, Mr. F. Morley, Miss Marie Longden, Miss Ethel North, Miss Kitty Johnstone, Miss Jennie Weston, and Miss Georgette Thiery. Next week: "Death or Glory Boys."

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Thos. Thompson.—This week (twice nightly), last three nights: Wal Langtry, comedian; Master James Garratt, violinist; Viviana and company, in "The Toy Shop"; and pictures.

NEATH.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. A. J. Noice; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. J. Hutchins.—This week (twice nightly): Athelda, the great lady athlete; Amor and Roma, in harmony and comedy act; Santey Brothers, gymnasts; the Gilfillan Trio, in musical playlet; pictures.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. Bannister Howard presents (Tuesday and Wednesday only) "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Messrs. Tom Crawford, George Hunter, Bernard Barker, James Wright, John Macdonald, and Misses Douglas Hicks, Evelyn Greig, Ruby Sime, Helen Baird, and Eleanor Scott. T. M., Mr. Henry Pettitt.

GNOLL HALL.—P., Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge.—This week (twice nightly): Augustine and Hartley, barrel jumpers; Chas. Hera, juggler; Chummie La Mara, comedienne; Melt and Bray, comedians.

PUBLIC HALL, BRITON FERRY.—S. & M., Mr. W. H. Humphreys.—This week: The Arizona Trio, acrobats and balancers; Two Welsh Bees, vocalists; pictures.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. the Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. C. Aubrey Smith and Miss Lilian Braithwaite are making a successful visit here this week in "Margery Marries" and "Instinct." In the first-named comedy the piquant and bewitching acting of Miss Braithwaite as Margery is really delightful to witness, and as Anthony Ashmore Mr. Smith played with restraint and self-possession throughout. Miss Gladys Storey is a sweet and wayward Kitty Blindon, and a natural Mrs. Blindon is found in Miss Marion Stirling. Mr. Charles Vernon makes the most of his opportunities as Morton Evered, and Mr. W. Kershaw is well placed as the dude (Kenneth Workley), whilst Mr. N. McKeown's Morris Blindon is a capital character study. In "Instinct" Miss Braithwaite impersonates Mrs. Mandover in a powerful manner, which adds to her reputation; and the same may truthfully be said of Mr. Smith as Bradford Mandover. Mr. N. McKeown's Arthur Mandover is worthy of the highest praise, and the remaining parts are all admirably filled.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; R. M., Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mrs. George Cornwallis-West (Lady Randolph Churchill) is the authoress of "The Bill," which is being presented for the first time in this city. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, as the Hon. John Lawson, delineated a sympathetic rôle in a most convincing fashion, and Miss Ruth MacKay was faultless as Lady Corisande Lamson; Mr. Frederick Sargent is an admirable Sir George Lacey, whilst Mr. G. Eltar's study of Sir Timothy Bullen creates quite a favourable impression.

PALACE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; M., Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—Mr. Charles H. Lester's company is this week presenting "The Frontier Queen" before large audiences (twice nightly). Mr. Norman A. Overton infuses considerable power into the villainous rôle of Jose Manildra, whilst a manly hero is found in Mr. J. Edwards Martin; Miss Marion Beresford is a refined and pathetic Mamie Ryder, and Miss Dorothy Riddell is responsible for a sweet and cultured interpretation of Cherry. Some excellent comedy is introduced by Mr. Edmund Rich, who receives valuable assistance in this direction from Miss M. Majilton, who capably fills the rôle of Aggie. The Cowboy band of ten performers well deserve a word of praise, their selections being heartily enjoyed.

PAVILION.—P., The Pavilion (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Pareham Wells.—This week (twice nightly): Gaby Revette, in art studies; the New Macs, comedians; the Child Trio; Phil Bransby, comedian; Tom Child, tenor; Saidie More, comedienne and dancer; Bert Earle, eccentric; Daphne Wynne, dancer; Arnold Richardson, in "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law"; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter de Frece. — Wonderfully good and varied entertainment is produced here this week. Scott and Whaley, coloured eccentric comedians, receive a flattering reception, as do Conrad and Whidden with their wild whimsical whirl of Ragtime rhapsodies; Frank Cass is a versatile comedian and mimic; Wisto and Whyso score in a remarkable equilibristic feat; Fanny Howard and partner amuse with their well-trained dog; the Jesse L. Lasky company are responsible for a capital sketch, "Detective Keen"; Fred Colley and Minnie Scott contribute some capital comedy tit-bits; the Four Ritchies entertain with some unique cycling feats; and pictures complete.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss', Ltd.; R. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; M., Mr. J. W. Kilgour; Asst. M., Mr. A. Devereux.—The chief attraction here this week is a coadensed version of "Hullo, Ragtime!" the cast including Misses Irene Dillon, Barbara Babbington, Messrs. Tom Payne, Cyril Censy, Ambrose Thorne, etc.; Kitty Clinton, comedienne; the Falcons, comedy acrobats; Lee and Kingston, comedy duo; France and Stewart, in comedy sketch; and Harry Webber, in character impersonations, all contribute acceptable turns.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., Mr. George Black.—The pictures featured here are up to their usual high standard of excellence, and capital variety interludes are introduced by Cliff and Kean, in a comedy dancing act; Ernest Montefiore and Co. in sketch, and Amasis, illusionist.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—L. & M., Mr. Sidney Cooper.—This week: Mr. Alfred Denville's company, in "The Miracle." The company includes Mr. C. H. Carter, Mr. J. H. Clyndes, Mr. Geo. Keene, Mr. Clifford Rean, Mr. R. Ossulston-Riche, Miss Dorothy Clifton, Miss Patricia Bostock, and Miss Hilda Playfair. Commencing next week, there will be two performances nightly, and the attraction will be "Death or Glory Boys."

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Heyes.—This week (twice nightly): The Five Cliftons, in gymnastic and equilibristic act; the Four Musical Denvers; Martin Henderson, blind musician; Vere and Nelldon, the novelty couple; Phil Parsons, light comedian; Fred Kendall, Hebrew comedian; Charles Fanning, comedian; and George Abel, in "Three of a Kind," supported by Fran Harris, H. P. Owen, Ellis Holland, Nellie Lionet, Kitty Hyde, and May Laerhoven.

EAST PARK PICTUREDROME. — P., Mr. C. Robinson; M., Mr. F. Heather.—This week, Bert Norman, tenor vocalist; and pictures.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M. Mr. Horace Lee.—This week: Mr. Rogers' Stock Company present "Whom God Hath Joined." The company includes: Mr. Algernon J. Hicks, Mr. John Blake, Mr. F. Thorpe Tracey, Mr. Lonnen Meadows, Mr. Clifford Poultney, Mr. Evan Roland, Mr. H. Victor Smith, Miss Lilian Earle, Miss Effie Macintosh, Miss Irene Thorpe Tracey, Miss Clara Stokoe, Miss Cissie Bellamy.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Black Bros.; R. M., Mr. Percy Gibeon; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ridsdale.—This week (twice nightly): The Romps, vocalists and dancers; Jack Rosslyn, character comedian; J. P. Carroll, soldier tambourinist; and pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole M., Mr. Fred Morgan.—Closed.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; M. Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—This week: Miss Esta Stella, comedienne; Helene and Emilion, trapezists; La Belle Greta, comedienne; and dancer; Lawrence Barclay, comedian; Smarte Bros., acrobatic comedians; Van-Bern, comedian; Sinclair and Whiteford, in sketch "Kitty's Hero"; and pictures. Twice nightly; matinée on Saturday at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES' PALACE.—M., Mr. R. A. Atkinson.—This week: Bowles and Bryan, in a "Garden Courtship"; Peggy Gay, comedienne; and pictures.

NORWICH ELECTRIC THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. G. F. Allen.—This week: Henriette and Selina, musical entertainers; Harry Mark, comedian and dancer; and pictures.

THE NEST.—L. & M., Messrs. S. and C. Goodman.—The Premier Pierrots opened here on Monday last. The troupe includes: Mr. Wallace Orton, vocalist; Mr. Charles Collins, Mr. Leslie Sears, comedian; Mr. William Huskins and Mr. Herbert Hay, accompanist; Miss Elsie Wood, Miss Jenny Lee and Miss Rennie Gem. Matinées, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 3 p.m.

SPRING GARDENS.—M., Mr. Horace Rose.—This resort opened on Monday with pierrots. This week the Georgians, consisting of Mr. Robert Carr, Miss Maud Coles, Miss Gladys Trevor, Mr. Harry Hurn (comedian), Mr. Vivian Vivian, and Mr. Eustace Wallace (accompanist). Matinées, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 3.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; A. M. Mr. Howard Finney; Mus. D., Mr. John Armstrong.—Mr. Allan Aynesworth's company acquit themselves capitally in the American comedy, "Ready Money." The polished villainy of Jackson Ives is excellently delineated by Mr. Frederick Victor. Mr. Olaf Hytten shows a delicious sense of humour in his portrayal of Stephen Baird. Mr. Ernest Cassel imparts a natural sternness to the part of James E. Morgan, and Mr. Walter Goodwin amusingly describes the marital worries of John H. Tyler. Mr. Arthur Elwyn admirably fills the rôle of Captain West, and has capable helpers in Mr. Oliver Crombie (Hammond) and Mr. Lewis Clarke (Flynn). Miss Agnes Verity displays genuine comedy talent in her assumption of Mrs. John Tyler, and an engaging Grace Tyler is seen in Miss Ivy Clemow. Miss Marion Lockey is a vivacious exponent of Margaret Elliott, and Miss Adelaide Tanner makes a lively Ida Tyler. Praise is also due to Mr. Leonard Seymour (Wm. Stewart), Mr. Jameson Thomas (Rosenthal), and Mr. Guy Buckley (Sam Welch). "Find the Woman" is billed for the last three nights.

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. Frank Seabrook; Mus. D., Mr. Sydney Twitin.—The sensational thrills provided in the spectacular drama, "The Cattle Thief," are fully appreciated. Mr. George A. Street imbues the title-rôle with fine energy and passion, and throughout remains a picturesque figure. Miss E. Wynne Matthews has a charming personality, and plays with distinction in the rôle of Ciara Maron. As the high-principled Percival Stonnington, Mr. W. E. Jackman makes a capital interpreter. Mr. Fred Fox gives an able performance of Judge Stickney, and in the dual rôle of Red Danvers and John Stalle Mr. Leslie M. Mitchell is alert and active. Mr. J. R. Kennedy acts with commendable force as the Sheriff, and a fine character study of the old postmaster is supplied by Mr. Frank Orchard.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—There is no lack of genuine enthusiasm when Houdini succeeds in liberating himself from seemingly impossible situations, and packed houses give him the heartiest of receptions. The merry jests and smart patter of Phil Ray provoke unrestrained applause. The Harlequinaders adroitly mix mirth and melody to the delight of their audience. Princess D'Aryaba submits a delightful dancing scena, and also introduces a charming young dancer in La Zafra. Much enjoyment is got out of the quaint humour of Will Gardner. Niagara and Falls are a merry pair of acrobats, and excellent items are given by Cissie Curlette, vocal comedienne; Dorma Morgan, comedienne and dancer, and Tony Black, Scotch comedian.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Albert C. Duncan; Asst. M., Mr. Stanhope Butler; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Wright.—"Dipping into the Future" has a fascination for most people, and the divinations of Anna Eva Fay are creating a large amount of curiosity and interest. Arthur Rigby provokes much merriment in his capital sketch, "Clara, the Cleaner." The strong dramatic element in "Fate" appeals forcibly to the house, as played by Gerald Wyatt and Co. The Creedons present an amusing sporting act; while the Bros. Aston prove comical knockabout cyclists. Ellis Barrieton sings with good taste. Success marks the musical speciality of Leon and Tee, and Dorothy Leigh submits an appreciated item.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Chicheln Taylor.—This week: Mr. Henry L. Osmond and company in "Miss Plaster—of Paris." The company includes: Messrs. Henry L. Osmond, Sylvester Stuart, Percy Forman, and Sid Dean; Misses Ida Conroy, L. McQuire, Agnes Hall, Gladys Walkden, Hettie Matthews, Kitty Kay, Dollie Barron, Violet English, Violet Adley, Adeline Ridley, Sybil Hazen, May Cellomouth, Bella Mahone, Annie Tippets, and Ethel Glyde.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME. — L., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. J. J. Kelley. — This week: Donaldson Bros. Leonard Ure, Marion Scott, and pictures.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL THEATRE.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Jos. Platt; G. M., Mr. Ernest Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Harry Kilrow; S., Mr. A. S. Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds present, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday "Her Kingdom of Love"; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "The King's Romance." The company includes: Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, Mr. Adrian Byrne, Mr. William Manning, Mr. Charles Wharton, Mr. Cecil Calmere, Mr. Thomas V. King, Mr. Harry Harrop, Mr. Frank Eastly, Miss Mary Austin, Mr. A. G. Fry, Mr. Stephen Seely, Mr. Harold E. Kinton, Miss Ethel Vinroy, Mrs. Manning, Mr. Percy Hordish. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.15. Next week: "The Mormon and His Wives."

PALACE.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. Platt; L. & G. M., Mr. Ernest Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Edmund Sharrocks; S., Mr. A. S. Mayall; Mus. D., Mr. Harry O'Callaghan.—This week (twice nightly): Vasco, the mad musician; Isa Wise, comedienne; Alexandra and Bertie in "After the Ball"; Sam Kelly, comedian; Columbia Comedy Trio, vocalists; Gesta and Hoe, mimics and dancers; Little Phyllis May, juvenile male impersonator; Eddie Emerson and Jerry Baldwin, club juggling comedians; pictures.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—P., The Dobie Electric Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. W. Dobie.—This week (twice nightly): The Rizarelis, in trapeze act; Clare and Pastor, in song, dance, and comedy; the Recar Trio, lady acrobats; the Apollo Comedy Four; Tom Cotton, comedian; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. C. Gaston.—This week: Chas. Gaston, in illustrated song scena; and pictures.

HIPPODROME. — P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. F. Dixon.—This week: Fred Dixon, comedian; and pictures.

POPULAR HALL.—M., Mr. J. W. Schofield.—This week, Tom Gregory, character comedian; and pictures.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This week: Mr. J. B. Fagan and company in "The Earth." The company includes: Messrs. J. B. Fagan, Charles Rock, Walter Hewetson, Hunter Nesbitt, Wilton Ross, Richard Hatteras, John Mason, Charles Jameson, and A. M. Letchner; the Misses Mary Grey, Cybel Wynne, and Pauline Hague.

PAISLEY.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; A. M., Mr. Jack R. Bostock; M. D., Mr. Thos. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Lew Lake, the cockney comedian, and his comedy company in "The Bloomsbury Burglars" and "My Pal Jerry"; the Minerva Troupe of football cyclists; Dave O'Toole, comedian; Irving and Jasmine, entertainers; Gene Morelle, the tramp musician; Jacko, the man monkey; Shirley Sparks, comedienne and dancer; Charles Denman, comedian; and pictures.

PEMBROKE DOCK.

WHITE'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Alf. Shirley.—This week: Dai Lloyd, Welsh comedian; Sandy and Carl, comedians and comedy boxers; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

PENRITH.

ALHAMBRA.—W. Forrester and Sons.—This week: The Three Stork Bros; Ford Williams; and pictures.

PENTRE.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis; R. M., Mr. James Gunn.—This week (twice nightly): The Arthur Breton Troupe of pantomimists in "A Sleepless Night"; Mabel St. Clair, ventriloquist; Five Bombays, in singing and dancing act; and pictures. Matinées, Tuesday and Saturday. Next week: "A Broken Heart."

WORKMEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. H. Salway; M. D., Mr. Joe Leslie.—This week (twice nightly): Daisy Morelle, in rag-time; Mohamed Lomas, juggler and tumbler, assisted by E. Chico; and pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, at 10.30 a.m.

PERTH.

PERTH THEATRE.—P. and M., Mr. J. H. Saville.—This week (once nightly): F. Victor Robinson presents "Peggy." Cast includes: Mr. A. Field-Fisher, Mr. Wallace Bosco, Mr. J. K. Walton, Mr. Harry Hartley, Mr. A. Victor Martin, Mr. Frank Merry, Mr. T. H. Tindall-Hogge, Mr. John Dorman, Master Nathan Alter, Mr. Gus Oxley, Miss Madge Lucas, Miss Eva Macdonald, Miss Rosemary Faire, Miss Kitty Cressy, Miss Ella Wynne, Miss Lola Woffington, Miss Elsie Piddock, Miss Rosie Howes, Miss Aline Heron, Miss Marion Keeley, Miss Ethel Streeter, Miss Vera St. Clair, Miss Eva Halton, and Miss Ethel Callanan. T. M., Mr. Andrew W. Spens. Next week: "My Friend the Prince."

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. A. Lake-Fry.—This week: Mr. Carr Loates' company, in "A London Outcast." The company includes: Messrs. Cecil Barton, Carr Loates, W. Archer, Frank Brundell, F. Overton, F. Gresham, and the Misses Victoria Mayes, Vera West, Jennie Stevens, Belle Winter, and Cissie Milford.

HIPPODROME. — L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mr. Fred Hawkins.—This week: Egan and His Oo-la Girls, introducing "The Devil's Piano"; Doc Thomas, the policeman and the messenger boy; Musicus, in instrumental act; Constance Seal, vocalist; the Liptons, in comedy and dancing act; and pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. J. Longden Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company in "The Sins of the Rich." Cast includes: Mr. Edwin Keene, Mr. John Johnston, Mr. Philip Layton, Mr. Ivor C. Gould, Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown, Mr. Ernest R. Abbott, Miss Isabel Singleton, Miss Winifred Rutland, Miss Annie Morgan, Miss Mattie Everett, Miss Cecile Rene, Miss E. Crowther, Miss Ada Abbott. Next week: "Somebody's Sweetheart."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—L., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. G. F. Thompson.—This week: Queenie Leighton, in all her latest successes; Dale and O'Malley, cross-talk comedians; Frou-Frou, the dog with the human brain; Ethel Eden, comedienne and dancer; Jean and Josie, the crocodile and the lizard; Jack Baxter, comedian; Yentoi Bros., smart acrobatic equilibrists; the Three Lyres (H. L. Harvey, F. C. Henderson, and S. B. Lewis).

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—L., Mr. Geo. Tankard.—This week (once nightly): O. Silverstone presents "The Ruin of a Countess." The company includes: Mr. O. Silverstone, Mr. Hugh Clayton, Mr. Huntley Gordon, Mr. Geoff. Pattrick, Mr. W. C. Bland, Mr. H. C. Rutland, Mr. D. Matthews, Mr. E. Jeffs, Miss Olive Yorke, Miss Marie Stevenson, Miss Violet Somerville, Miss Jessica Ford.

PONTYPRIDD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; M. Mr. Charles Trenchard; A. M., Mr. William Trenchard.—This week: Menlo and Minora, society acrobats and lady contortionists; Quaker Girl, soprano; Mozart's (Nat and Annie) Electric Fit-up; the Jungle Kid, Wee Maggie.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—P., Mr. J. G. Wood; R. M., Mr. Mason.—This week: Miss Winnie Atkinson, soprano; Mr. George Williams, impersonator.

PORTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Will Smithson; M., Mr. J. W. Bynorth; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Stephens.—This week: Mr. Morton Powell's company in "From Mill Girl to Millionairess." The company includes: Messrs. Alf Stretton, Fred Freeman, J. A. Hybert, Rich Webb, Western Beecher, C. H. L. Locke, E. R. Shrewd, Albt. Sanger, P. Clay, and Master G. Blaze, and the Misses Pattie Hastings, Florence Hamilton, Emily Huby, Irene Carington, Lizzie Lemon, Mabel Rosselle, Anne May, Lucy Lauder, and Marion Mason.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Stanley Houghton's "Hindle Wakes" was presented here for the first time on Monday night by Mr. Max Allen's company. A typical millowner was represented by Mr. Ernest E. Imeson as the obdurate Nathaniel Jeffcote, his gentle but opportunist wife being impersonated by Miss Kate Osborne; the self-willed, blunt Fanny Hawthorn was skilfully handled by Miss Helena Wallran, her emotional powers in the first scene being greatly en evidence; Miss Cecile E. Anson realised with great success the unrelenting Mrs. Hawthorn; the self-made Sir Timothy Farrar received a fine impersonation at the hands of Mr. John Cecil; the scapegrace son, Alan Jeffcote, had an effective exponent in Mr. Stephen Wentworth; Miss Madge Trenchard displayed ability in the difficult part of Beatrice Farrar; Fanny's unhappy father, Christopher Hawthorn, was capitally portrayed by Mr. Norman Clark. The play was preceded by a cleverly rendered monologue by Miss Madge Trenchard.

KING'S.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—An excellent all-round entertainment is attracting full houses here this week. These talented and versatile artistes, the Two Hollanders (Chretienne and Louisette), give international imitations, which are enthusiastically applauded; a clever balancing and gymnastic display was submitted by the Imperial Manchu Chinese troupe; a comedy drama playlet, "Honour is Satisfied," was performed with ability by Mr. Eric Mayne, Miss Gwendolen Verschoyle, and Mr. Gordon Bailey; a capital pierrot and musical turn was provided by Barrington, Dane, and Dickens; Abel and Welsh are clever eccentric contortionists; the contribution of Ellis and Murray, patter comedians, amused greatly; dainty duettists are the Sisters Allen; and John Earl, the Hatedian, was cordially welcomed.

PRINCES.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton.—"The Sledge Hammer" is at the above theatre this week. In the hands of Mr. W. V. Garrod's company, the fine story is excellently presented. The stage setting is admirable, and a large audience was vociferous in its applause. Mr. Maxwell Davidson is excellent as Mathew Derrick, farmer and farrier; and his three sons are ably taken by Robert Gilbert, Carthage Caldcleugh, and Charles Halling; whilst his brother, Cornelius Derrick (Mr. F. S. Steward) is well received; and Mr. Frank Dallas is humorous as Sammy Shaws, of the rural constabulary.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. George Harris.—Prominent here are the Four Ascots, lady and gentlemen dancers, who do their work with amazing speed; Captain Jack Kelly, assisted by Miss Violet Kelly, whose stockwhip manipulation is simply wonderful; Macdonald and Young's company evoked hearty laughter with their "all Scotch" sketch. "The Lodgers," in which Miss Jean Turnhill takes the leading part; Frank Bush is a raconteur of no small ability; very eccentric comedians are Jackley and Le Sine; Arthur Ferris's character studies are presented in song form; Will Owen rivets attention in his pictorial illustration of "Jacob's Tales"; and an old favourite in Portsmouth, Madeline Rossiter, is cordially greeted.

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; S., Mr. M. Pratt.—Owing to severe indisposition, Miss Flornie Forde, the well-known chorus singer, had to forgo her engagement here. Her place on the bill has been filled by Mike E. Fitzgerald and his seven club juggling girls; the trio of American vocalists, the Three Collegians, in the latest rag-times; Edward O'Rell (one of their number) proves himself a revelation at the piano. MacMahon and Du For (Jack and Ivy, the latter of whom is a Portsmouth lady) pay a return visit with their original duologue, "The Sleeping Car." Other excellent turns are contributed by Fred Evans, the burlesque "dreamer," in a "nightmare" of "Oliver Twist"; Thorne and Leopold, in a special singing and dancing act; Jack Stocks, a side-splitting comedian; Baby Woff; and the Roneos.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—M., Mr. F. G. Robson.—This week (twice daily): The Popular Poppies. Artistes include: Miss Katharine Craig, Miss Marion Ruth, Mr. Leonard Van Mentz, Mr. Leonard Edwardes, Mr. Will R. Edwards, and Mr. Will Tissington. Next week: Ben Lawes and his Purple Poms.

PRESTON.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. William J. Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. William Davidson.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Fred Granville presents "The Girl Who Wrecked His Life." The company includes: Ralph Rex, Edwin George, Will Shirley, H. E. Lovett, Reg. Earle, Chas. Dickson, Roy Tremaine, J. Leclair, Cliff Mill, Mary Tully, Louise Hicks, Winnie Webb, Maudie Page, Pattie Hastings, Nora Cartelle. T. M., Mr. Vernon Travers.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Frank E. Burdett; Mus. D., Mr. Robert Peek.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno and Co. presents "Wakes Week" and "The Bailiff"; Ellerslie Pyne in "An Actor's Dream"; Clark's Crazy Comedy Cyclists; Olitzka Madison, comedienne; Harrison Bros., comedians and dancers. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Edwin Bush; G. M., Mr Alan W. Young; Mus. D., Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week (twice nightly and Monday matinée): Tucker, the singing violinist; Herbert Rule, eccentric comedian; Chas. Kasrac and company in "Buffet de Fals"; the Schmettans, equilibrists; Daisy de Roy, comedienne; the Haytors, in their comedy act; Victor and Louis, comedians; Mona Warwick, juvenile comedienne; Alec Kennedy, comedian.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore present "Captain Bracebound's Conversion." The company includes: Kenneth Black, Leigh Lovel, Vernon West, Octavia Kenmore, Cecil Lloyd, Herbert Mansfield, Gerald Morris, Richard Keith, Cyril Esmonde, Andrew Buck, G. E. Tenterden, W. Learmouth, Vernon West, and Stanley Yourke. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Charley's Aunt."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. J. H. Hyslop; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—This week (twice nightly): Weston and Lynch, in American comedy skits; May Hopkins, comedienne; Jenny and Joe, comedy duo; Allen and White, equilibrists; Jack Sterzelly, comedy juggler; Cumminger and Colonna, dancers; Fred E. Terry, comedian; Tom Leamore, comedian; and pictures.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman Robinson.—This week (once nightly, by arrangement with Mr. Graham Moffat), Mr. Cyril Maude presents "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Messrs. David Urquhart, R. B. Drysdale, Abie Barker, Frank Reynor, Forest Niven, and Misses Mary Campbell, Josephine Woodward, Ella Young, Eva Young, and Jean Clyde. Preceded by "The Price of Coal." T. M., Mr. F. C. Pool. Next week: "The Cingalee."

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole L., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson. G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—This week: "A Blind Girl's Love." The company includes: Mr. Elton Morgan, Miss Flo Norman, Mr. George Steel, Miss Issa Steel, Little Edna, Mr. Wm. Vane, Mr. Charles Osborne, Mr. Erne Turner, Mr. Artie Francis, Mr. Fred Morris, Miss Adelaine Raby, and Miss Hettie Senior. Next week: "The Woman He Wanted."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., The Jackson Family; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson, sen.—This week: Chung Ling Soo, conjurer and magician; Yazo violinist, assisted by Mme. Leclere; Ethel Thomas, vocalist; Fred Bellman, comedian and eccentric dancer; Smythson Comedy Company, in "The Lie Alarm"; Daisy and her Eight Stars, presented by Mme. Thomson Woods; Taroe Royal Matsuis, Japanese entertainers and juggelers; and pictures.

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—Sole L., Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. Ralph Pringle.—This week: Pictures, "Les Misérables."

ROTHERHAM.

ROYAL.—P., The North of England Theatres Corporation; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; R. M., Mr. John Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. A. C. Harrison.—This week: Zelda and her girls, in musical, vocal, and dancing scena; Wal Owen, the silent comedian; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Rotherham Hippodrome, Limited; M. D., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; R. M., Mr. Wm. Pearson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Miller; G. M., Mr. J. Leishman.—This week the bill consists of the Ten Loonies, in "The Crazy Comedy Band"; Downes and Langford, comedians; Little Zola, comedian; Harry Raymond and Ivy, in coon songs and dances; Felix and Fisher, comedy gymnasts; Kathi Guetini, juggler; and Hetty Hampin, comedienne and dancer.

RUGBY.

THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. John Lambert.—This week: pictures only.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. John Lambert.—This week: Ted Saunders; the Four Casinos and Bird; Walsh and Holt; and pictures.

RUNCORN.

PALACE.—Licensee and M. D., Mr. A. Smith; A. M., Mr. Douglas L. Watson.—This week (once nightly): J. W. Cordiner and Harry Richardson present "The Colombo Girl." Cast includes: Mr. Charles Dawe, Mr. J. W. Cordiner, Mr. Finn Doyle, Mr. Tom H. Solly, Mr. Arthur Lenville, Miss Gertrude De Lacy, Miss Nellie Harcourt, Miss Dorothy Desmonde.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—This week (twice nightly): Mona Vivian, singer and mimic of dancers; Archie Glen, comedian; Cox and Fynbo, comedy acrobats; Kerr and Shaw, the inimitable comedians; and pictures.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. E. B. Goulden.—This week (once nightly, and Wednesday matinée, 2.30): Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company in "The Still Alarm." Cast includes: Mr. Vernon Fortesque, Mr. Geo. Gaisford, Mr. Edward Hobart, Mr. Richard Hutton, Mr. Vincent Harvey, Mr. Lewis Gordon, Mr. Bernard Ince, Mr. Jack Topping, Mr. Henry Smith, Mr. Jack Lewis, Mr. William Edwards, Mr. Eddie Tudor, Mr. Harry Johnson, Mr. Tom Varney, Mr. George Francis, "Laddie," Miss Mabel Veriton, Miss Dorothy Hildebrande, Miss Margaret Frame. T. M., Mr. Richard Hutton.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; District M., Mr. W. H. Ishamwood; R. A. M., Mr. Henry Hearn.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. F. Marriott-Watson and Mr. Jas.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T. M., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Asst. M., Mr. M. Mahoney.—"The Girl of My Heart," a sound, healthy drama of the Adelphi type, was played to a good audience on Monday by Messrs. Leonard and French's company. Mr. Herbert Leonard has located his stirring scenes in and near Portsmouth, and the picturesque scenery, from Mr. Wentworth Croke's atelier, does much to bring the smell of the ocean across the footlights. The acting is in the proper nautical spirit, and such characteristic sketches as Mr. Herbert Leonard's breezy sailor, Will Stuart, Mr. Arthur Maskell's Capt. Bridge, R.N., Mr. C. Claxton Turner's Ben Lanky, Mr. J. McCann's Tim Hooley, Mr. W. C. Webb's Admiral Rawlins, Mr. Charles Staff's Godfrey, and Mr. Walter Grave's Parkin delighted the house. Miss Emily Bennett was very successful as Mary, and loyal work was done by Miss Laura Dyson as Sarah Bradley, Miss Mary Rayner as Jennie, Miss Doris Foskett as Jane, Miss Flo Davis as the nurse, Mr. Arthur Pringle as Gunner Phillips, Mr. Jack Haddon as Major Fulton, Mr. Fred Vaughan as Scraggs, Mr. T. Waller as Searle, Mr. G. Landry as Hawkins, Mr. D. Allen as Barber, Mr. W. Clement as Col. Dickson, Mr. J. McGuffie as Jackson, and Mr. Edward Curtis, a humorous Joshua Bradley. Next week, "The Frontier Queen."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. D. Forsdike; A. M. & T., Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—"The Old Home," a most excellent play of English domestic life and character, is again being acted to good houses by Mr. Evelyn A'Dell's company. Mr. Charles Franmore repeats his admirable representation of the Dan'l Peggoty-like part of Daddy Dean, and the rugged honesty and pathos of the old fisherman wins the sympathy and nearly applause of all. Miss May Dalby is a pretty and winning Hazel Dean; Mr. Evelyn A'Dell makes a very favourable impression as the manly young curate, Eric Armstrong; Mr. Reginald Brawn's Lord Avondale is a well-considered study; Mr. Fred Stone as Timothy Twaddles, Mr. Cliffe Astley as Bill Adams, "The fren' o' Nelson," and Miss Ethel Ashleigh as Polly provide obvious and acceptable excuses for merriment. Miss Harriette Loydall's Bridget Donoghan is a commendable impersonation, and other carefully played parts are Mr. T. Baker's Ned, Mr. Jack's Joe Strong, Mr. John Ernest's Jack Warren, and Mr. Harry Dean's Dr. Warburton. Some well-painted and picturesque scenery is carried by the company, and the entire production is creditable to all concerned. Next week, "The Ruin of a Countess."

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., The Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. L. M. Stewart.—Mr. Eustace Gray's Palladium Minstrels opened to a large and evidently well pleased house on Monday. The principals, chorus, banjo band, and boys' choir were massed on the approved Haverley principle, and the ensemble had a most exhilarating effect. The first part was a great success, each item was loudly applauded, and the sensational vocal and terpsichorean novelty, "The Rag-time Goblin Man" fairly brought down the house, the audience insisting on an encore. Mr. Willie Scott made a hit with his song and dance, and the veteran negro comedian, Little Thomas, sang two songs, and caused hearty laughter with his quaint patter. The second half of the entertainment included "Massa Jack's Return," a well-staged scena; the banjo band; "The Haunted House," a comic sketch of a familiar character, and "Dr. Whackem's Academy." Mr. Arnold was a smart conductor.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Sheffield Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Frank Poole.—The excellent array of talent here includes Miss Betty Barclay and a baritone. Both artistes are well received. Cliff Berzac and his clever equine comedy act are very successful. The laughable farce, "The Man from Mexico" is well played by Mr. Stanley Cooke's clever comedy company. Mignon and Fraisettis submit a delightful dancing and singing entertainment. Miss May Mara is a tuneful and handsome Cleopatra, in her well-mounted scena, "Under the Shadow of the Pyramids," and the Ross-Wilson Trio, "crazy rag-men," Grant and Grant, "the octoroons," and Arthur Page, Lancashire humorist, are all well received. Mus. D., Mr. J. G. Hahn.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—G. M., Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—The Zelovas, clever and graceful Continental acrobatic equilibrists, the Three Smart Girls, and some artistic pictures have been well received at this cosy hall.

SMETHWICK.

ROYAL.—P., Mr. C. Barnard; M., Mr. James Chapman.—This week: Mr. Frederic Baugh's No. 1 Company in "The Stepmother." Cast includes: Mr. Frank Beresford, Miss Florence Creagh, Miss Trixie Southern, Mr. Frank Dennis, Mr. Fred De Vere, Mr. E. H. Nelson, Mr. Dick Cruickshanks, Anna Vickers, Miss Cissie Clarke, Miss May Davis.

EMPIRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. A. G. Guest.—This week: The Great Lumars in comedy acrobatic act; Lily May, chic comedienne and dancer; Dennis J. McCarthy, in a speciality act; Harry Watson, light comedy artiste; the Four Dykes, instrumentalists; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston; Mus. D., Mr. J. Warwick Moore.—Mr. Herbert Jay's company is this week appearing in "Baby Mine." The company includes: Misses Fay Temple, Florence Steventon, Messrs. Keith Kenneth, and Bert Monks. The Pelicans, in a vaudeville entertainment, precede the farce.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Yardley.—This week (twice nightly): Eugene Stratton, in "Uncle Jasper"; Lowe and Lomond, comedians; Minnie Muir, comedienne; Signor Torti, vocalist; Arleys Trio, cyclists; Shirley and Ransome, in "Jim's Pal"; Alfred Wellesley and company, in "Uncle's Courtship"; and pictures.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; Mus. D., Mr. J. Wilde.—This week: Rinaldo, the wandering violinist; Karr and Kooney; Sados; Lily and Ida Halle; the Ko Ten Ichi Troupe; Wakeman; Frank Hardie and Victoria Carlton in "Betrayed"; Real McKays; and Anna Hana.

ROYAL PIER.—A. M., Mr. H. C. Sait.—The concert season commenced on Wednesday, when the band, pipers, and dancers of H.M. Royal Scots Fusiliers gave entertainments. Next week: The Cigarettes.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE.—L. and M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Julian Graham.—This week (last three nights, once nightly): Mr. Arthur Hare and company in "A Pair of Spectacles." Cast includes: Mr. Arthur Hare, Mr. James Harcourt, Mr. Francis Drake, Mr. Guy Vivian, Miss Lloyd Desmond, Mr. H. Sherwood Martin, Mr. Jack Bertram, Mr. Ted Jackson, Miss Eva Stuart, and Miss Florence Harcourt. Next week: "Hindle Wakes."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter De Frece; R. M., Mr. W. H. Lennon.—This week: Nervo, the boy hat manipulator and acrobatic dancer; Bert Rayburn comedian; Harry Moore, poster manipulator; Forest Tell, coon delineator; J. F. Elliston presents "In the Future"; F. V. St. Clair, vocal comedian; Fred Karno presents "Flats."

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. George Clarkson; Mus. D., Mr Harry Burton.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes' company. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, "The Dollar Princess"; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, "The Merry Widow." The company includes: Miss Ada Thomas, Miss Florence Ivy, Miss Marie Kappey, Miss Peggy Quainton, Miss Ethel Craske, Miss Madge Steward, Miss Kathleen Storr, Miss Mae Jackson, Miss Freda Large, Miss Kathleen Rae, Miss Lucie Donati, Miss Effie Mann, Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter, Mr. H. Ripley Evans, Mr. Tom Redmond, Mr. William Allison, Mr. Haydn Scott, Mr. Clifford Seyler, Mr. Ernest Climpson, Mr. Clifton Hamilton, Mr. Fred Maguire. Next week: "The Barrier."

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John Coulson; S., Miss F. Black; Mus. D., Mr. Jos. Hopper.—This week: Mr. Charles H. Lester's company present "A Life for a Life" twice nightly. The company includes: Mr. Chas. H. Lester, Mr. Edward Leroy, Mr. John Talford, Mr. Edmond O'Grady, Mr. Raymond Wallace, Mr. Lawson Frazier, Mr. Pat Van Issher, Mr. Percyval Christopher, Mr. Sidney Barnes, Mr. A. C. Howson, Mr. E. Williams, Miss Blanche Leroy, Miss Gaby Fay, Wee Miriam Stuart, and Miss Kate Froude. Next week, "Only a Mill Girl."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Richd. Thornton; G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter; Mus. D., Mr. Jos. Campbell.—This week: Six Donovans in musical act; Jock McKay, Scotch humourist; Little Ganty, comedian; Wilson and Waring, in vaudeville entertainment; Charles Norton, mimetic comedian; Albert Letine, entertainer; Phil Rabey, descriptive vocalist; Chas. Lewis, ventriloquist; and pictures.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. James Bainton.—This week: Ninette, in characteristic poses; Dainty Ivy Stephens, entertainer; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lecturer M., Mr. Wilfrid Bryant; Asst. M., Mr. Richd. H. Taylor.—This week: Haley's Garden of Girls, "Cestria," acrobatic comedy juggler; and pictures. Mus. D., Mr. Harry Verd.

KING'S PICTURES TEMPERANCE HALL.—M., Mr. Morris Geo. Elsy.—Van Roy, in comedy musical scena; and pictures.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Burrows and Drewett; M., Mr. Burrows.—This week: Messrs. Graham Woods and Archie Helsby's company are appearing here in "A Beautiful Fiend" and "Send Him Victorious." Messrs. Graham Woods, Archie Helsby, Howard Hardy, Freddie Edwards, and Roland A. Bridge, and Misses Marie Robson, Florence Atack, and Madge Palmer.

ARCADIA.—P., Mr. A. F. Gowland; M., Mr. H. E. Feather Percy.—This week: Williams's Juveniles; Nellie Bly, comedienne; and pictures.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., St. Helens Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. McLeod Loader; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—This week: "The Idol of Paris," presented by Mr. James Bell's company. The cast includes: Mr. Gordon Robey, Mr. C. Adair, Mr. T. Handley Parker, Mr. Frederick Carr, Mr. Alfred G. Raymond, Miss P. Anderton, Miss Edith Evans, and Miss Kitty Dillon.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; A. M., Mr. Robert W. Fox.—This week: Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's production, "The Barrier." The cast includes: Mr. Richard Hicks, Mr. Stanley Bedwell, Mr. Louis Hector, Mr. Charles Barrett, Mr. Arthur Leigh, Mr. C. C. Grattan, Miss Jessie Belmore, and Miss Florence Dulhunty.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. E. L. Garside presents "A Girl's Good Luck." The company includes Mr. Wentworth Fane, Mr. Lionel French, Mr. Bevis Hammersley, Mr. Ben Roby, Mr. Wm. Attfield, Mr. Millar Wilson, Mr. John Nicol, Mr. Alfred Askers, Miss Evelyn N. Walton, Miss Winifred Love, Miss Nettie French, and Miss Nellie Garside.

EMPIRE.—P., The Stockport Empire Theatre Company, Limited; A. M., Mr. H. Hindley Potter; Mus. D., Mr. J. T. Clarke.—This week (twice nightly): Mabel Moss, singer; Clara Coverdale presents the Nine Dainty Dots in "The Gypsies' Revels"; Dorothy Meade, vocalist and comedienne; the Three Mahers, dancers; the Eight Rag-time Darkies, in singing, dancing, harmony; Jock Whiteford, the smart Scot; Howard and Collinson Trio, in "Fun in a China Shop"; and pictures.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. John Batty; M., Mr. Walter Barry.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and Mr. Harry Masterman present "Nick Carter." The company includes: Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, Miss Mary Lovett, Little Daphne Grey, Mr. Chas. Burdon, Mr. William Burgess, Mr. Roger Joyner, Mr. Edward Wishaw, Mr. Frank Thompson, Miss Ella Vane, Mr. Harry C. Momber, Miss Susie Bevan, Miss Edith Manton, Mr. Gerald Henshaw, Mr. G. Harris, Mr. Alfred Sinclair, Miss Nellie Waddington, Miss F. Kenyon, and Mr. Will Ellythorne. T. M., Mr. William Burgess.

HIPPODROME.—L. & G. M., Mr. Harry Burns; R. M., Mr. Geo. V. Stainton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Ernest Delsten presents "Marked Money"; Phil Dooley, whistler and dancer; Daisy and Dots, singers and dancers; Three Macjans, comedy bar act; Edwin Lawrence, in new burlesque; Jack Clevoner and a concertina; Susie Belmore, with four gentlemen, in vocal scena; pictures.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; M., Mr. William Berson.—This week: Miss Hilda Beverley and company present "The White Girl Slave." The company includes: Miss Hilda Beverley, Miss Dorothy Kirke, Miss M. Brammer, Miss Grace Carew, Messrs. F. Fenn, J. Jarrett, S. Clayton, J. L. Inglis, F. Cavins, Jack Armitage, and Leonard Kendall.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—M., Mr. D. C. Phelps.—This week: Harry Foxwell and company, in "A Broken Heart" twice nightly. The company includes: Mr. William Heilbrun, Mr. Percy J. Dewhurst, Mr. Charles O'Connor, Mr. Geo. Brakenbury, Mr. George Ford, Miss Nellie Statham, Little Dorothy, Miss Ethel Grey, Miss Vera Grafton, Mr. Harry Foxwell, Mr. Edmund Sydney, Mr. Cunningham Currie, Mr. Harrison Tate, Mr. Hugh Alexander, Miss Maude Ryder, Miss Phyllis Massey, and Miss Cissie Tracey.

KING'S HALL.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. J. Wharton.—This week: Tom Stuart in dramatic and burlesque impressions; Lillian Devon, comedienne and dancer; Ernest Krake and company of comedians; and pictures.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow; T., Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is having a most gratifying reception here this week in the musical company, "Princess Caprice." On Monday night an ovation was accorded Mr. Eric Thorne, who worked with unflagging energy throughout, making endless fun of his humorous interpretation of the rôle of the Prince Regent. Mr. Harry Ray also infused a deal of humour into the part of Prince Nicola; Mr. Gordon Cleather gave a pleasing performance as Augustin, and used a cultured baritone voice to much advantage; Mr. Henry Frankis was good as Jasomir; and Mr. James Stevenson caused many laughs as the broker's man. The rôle of the Prime Minister was cleverly handled by Mr. Jc Monkhouse; Miss Marie Blanche was delightful in the title-rôle, and used her sweet voice with fine effect; Miss Isabelle Dillon was a pronounced success as Anna; and Miss Mary Dandridge was a dainty and vivacious Princess Clementine. Mr. Horace Lingard was good as Mathaeus. Fine work was done by the chorus and orchestra, under the able bâton of Mr. Edwin Thornton. The scenery and dresses are gorgeous and tasteful. Next week: "Hindle Wakes."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton.—Miss Winifred Maude's company is playing here this week in the drama, "The Mormon and the Maid." Miss Maude gives a clever rendering of Dove Carton; Mr. Albert E. Bannister submits a fine performance as Stephen Walmer; Miss Gipsy Alexander is admirably suited to the part of Pauline Brail; the rôle of Phineas Carne is capably handled by Mr. Arthur L. Read; and the humour is well looked after by Mr. Victor du Cane as Hercules U. P. Gnat and Miss Lilla Morden as Molly Briggs.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden.—Miss Florence Irwin and company are being given a warm reception for their highly diverting sketch, "Mrs. Peckham's Carouse," the acting being distinctly clever throughout. The Seven Ragged Rag-time Gipsy Girls are deservedly popular for a novel and versatile performance; Woody, Wood and Well create roars of laughter with a clever acrobatic act; Cavalli scores heavily with something new in ventriloquism; Karl and Eddie give a smart and humorous performance at the pianoforte; the Five Petleys perform some daring aerial feats; Rowlands and Ford are highly amusing; and Frank Hartley displays much skill as a juggler.

AVENUE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; B. M., Mr. J. Clement Padden.—The Edwards are contributing some vocal numbers of a high order and in good style; and the Ormsides create roars of laughter with their clever sketch, "The Hebrew and the Maid."

PALACE THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—Alanson gives evidence of enormous strength in his American electrical act; the Three Sisters Sprightly, burlesque artistes, are seen to advantage in a musical mélange; and Edna Zora and company are warmly applauded for a charming song-scena.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. T. Byrne; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Hulley.—This week (once nightly and Saturday matinée, 2.30): Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in "The Easiest Way." Cast includes: Miss Elsie Goulding, Miss Nora Surrey Vaughan, Miss Bessie Frank, Miss Sybil Seymour, Miss Lilian Belmore, Mr. Pringle Roberts, Mr. Michael Stanles, Mr. J. Edward Pearce, T. M., Mr. Stanley Roberts. Next week: "The Miracle."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. G. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Mark Sheridan, "one of the b'hoys"; Cissie Thompson, comedienne; Johnson and Bert, in "A Queer Customer"; Louie Tracey, male impersonator; Will H. Fox, at the piano; Harry Fields, mimic; Capt. Woodward's seals and sea-lions; Nixon Grey, comedian; and pictures.

TODMORDEN.

OLYMPIA.—L., Messrs. Bennett and Tolfree, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Albert A. Nicholls; Mus. D., Mr. J. Boden.—This week (once nightly): Falco and Eida, in dancing act; Milton Bros., comedians; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee & M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; S., Mr. Arthur Pearse.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Reginald Witherby, 'cellist; Harry Allenby, comedian; Madge Garrett, dancer; Sinclair and Leslie, comedians; the Delhis, vocalists; Miss Gracie Matheson, Little Ethel and Ernest Mills, juvenile musicians; and the Royal Osbornes, athletes and club-swingers. Next week: Kinemacolor.

PAVILION.—P., the Torquay Town Council; M., Mr. Austin M. Wilshere.—This week: The Municipal Orchestra, under Mr. Basil Hibdenberg, supplemented by Miss Ethel M. Kemich, soprano, and Mr. Bridge Peters, bass-baritone.

TREHERBERT.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. C. W. Poole; R. M., Mr W. A. Totten.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. Newton Cowling's company in "The Collier's Lass." The cast includes: Mr. Harry Sainsbury, Mr. Edward Valentine, Mr. Denbigh J. Douglas, Mr. J. Newton Cowling, Mr. Herbert Sydney, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Lock, Mr. Eastbrook, Mr. Fred Barnes, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Lynn Darlington, Miss Adele Liddon, Miss Mona Gray, and Miss Muriel Dean.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): The Society Quartette, vaudeville artistes; Tom Joy, comedian; Ena Vine and Mark Brewer, in musical act; and pictures.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Zona Vevey; Dick Tubb, comedian; the Cairo Duo; Jessie Buckle, comedienne; Miss Gertrude Bibby, in quick-change play; Mr. Max Erard presents "The Silver Wedding"; and pictures.

GRAND ELECTRIC.—R. M., Mr. H. Dunnill.—This week (twice nightly): Sonata, actor-musician; Coquelli, mimic; and pictures. Matinées Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 3.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Sydney Tolfree; A. M., Mr. Harry Heath.—This week (twice nightly): Four Maisancs, eccentric musicians; W. A. Harvey, wire speciality act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., The Walsall Theatres Company, Limited; S. and M., Mr. W. H. Westwood; Joint M., Moss' Empire, Limited.—This week: Her Majesty's repertory company in "A Warning to Women." The cast includes: Mr. Alfred Goddard and Miss Isla Garnett-Vayne, Mr. Haughton Macaulay, Mr. Alec Wilson Wynne, Mr. Kenneth Barton, Mr. Augustine Bowerman, Mr. Frank Lyndon, Mr. Will Percy, Mr. Jack Harrell, Miss Patricia Connaughton, Miss Madge Trevelyan, and Miss Kathryn Eckart.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Sir Joseph Beecham; G. M., Mr. A. M. Loader; A. M., Mr. H. L. Warburton.—This week (twice nightly): Mrs. Frank Bateman and company in "Which Did She Love?" (Monday and Tuesday); "Sapho" (Wednesday and Thursday); and "The King and the Orange Girl" (Friday and Saturday). Company includes: Mr. Fred W. Goddard, Mr. Harry Aynsleigh, Mr. J. P. Lallen, Mr. Hill Cremer, Mr. Bob Anderson, Mr. Robert Monteigle, Mr. W. Brunsford, Mr. H. Priest, Miss Camille Treherne, Miss Kitty Vererose, Miss Maud Taylor, Miss Marion Vyner, Mrs. Frank Bateman. Next week: "The Old Home."

WELLINGBOROUGH.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; R. M., Mr. Joseph Baron; Mus. D., Mr. Herberte Jordan, A.L.C.M.—This week (twice nightly): Sinclair's Three Bluebells, singers and dancers; Ivy Lee, 'celloist; Annie Fielding and Bert Hull, entertainers; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mr. Frederic Harvey presents "The Fatal Hour." The company includes: Conrad Clark, W. G. Polson, Lyn Roberts, E. D. Nicholls, Archie Watts, Arthur Bryon, Arthur Francis, Henry Hamilton, May Day, Muriel Ingliss, and Doris Whyte. T. M., Mr E. D. Nicholls.

WEST BROMWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. R. Nightingale and Montague Beaudyn; Licensee, Mr. R. Nightingale; G. M., Mr. Stanley S. Gordon.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Montague Beaudyn presents "Sapho." Cast includes: Mr. Stanley S. Gordon, Mr. Henry Parr, Mr. Collin F. Heather, Mr. Billy Sherlock, Mr. Sidney Clewlow, Mr. Tom Arkinstall, Mr. Russ Challis, Miss Marie Saville, Miss Gertrude Vickers, Miss Ada Dempster, Miss Julie Cresswick, and Miss Nina Vaughton. T. M., Mr. Stanley S. Gordon.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. J. W. Seaward.—This week (twice nightly): Stanley Rogers' stock company in "The Ticket of Leave Man." Cast includes: Mr. Albert Sember, Mr. Cuthbert Taylor, Mr. C. Alan-Hineson, Mr. Fred Hodson, Mr. Edwin Morton, Mr. George Walkley, Mr. Alec Finlayson, Miss Lally Wynne, Miss Alice Greenwood, Miss Ruth Shepherd.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Richd. Thornton; M., Mr. S. Thornton Smurthwaite; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Marshall.—This week: Arthur Woodville comedian; La Pia, in her mystic dances; and pictures.

PALACE.—L., Mr. W. G. Alderson; M., Mr. W. Canner; Mus. D., Mr. S. Grahame.—This week: Johnny McElroy and company in "Kiss, in the Dark"; Mamie May, comedienne and dancer; Jim Crosbie, baritone vocalist; and pictures.

WEST STANLEY.

ALBERT HALL.—P., Messrs. Randall Williams; R. M., Mr. G. E. Routledge; Mus. D., Mr. Wilhelm Oscar.—This week (twice nightly): The Elvins, duettists; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Albany Ward; M., Mr. Fred Adderley.—This week: The Zancigs; Four le Roys, in "Down in Oklahama"; Occi Souplessi, human spider; and pictures.

WHITEHAVEN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Will Gibson; C., Mr. Fred Merryman.—This week: Dix and Dox, eccentric musicians; Sarraguna, speciality act; Carney Bros., in vocal scena; and pictures.

PICTURE PALACE.—L., Mr. Victor Branford.—This week: Bros. Beattie, comedians and dancers; Wee Ella Fields, juvenile vocalist and dancer; Cole Cliff, Yorkshire comedian; and pictures.

ST. JAMES' ELECTRIC THEATRE.—S., Mr. Victor Halliwell.—This week: Jack Edge, comedian; Will and Fred, comedy duo; Eden and Heward, harmonising duo; and pictures.

ROYAL STANDARD.—P., Mr. Tom Dyson.—This week: Nena Dorrien, serio comedienne; Mme. Brayne, vocalist; and pictures.

WIDNES.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—This week (twice nightly): The Waldrons, in "That Silly Burglar"; Reg Brown, comedian; Horace Horner, entertainer; Webb and Branston, operatic vocalists; and pictures.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—L., Messrs. J. Gar Kiddie and Frank Bray.—Carmo, illusionist; Arthur Savory, light comedian; Rodelle, tramp musician; Pattie St. Clair, vocalist; Tom Bolton, comedian; Rennie, ventriloquist, etc.; Jem Dalton, blind ballad vocalist; Dora Hilstrom, in "Men Were Deceivers Ever."

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—P. & M., Wigan Entertainment Co., Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. T. Ainscough.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond present "An Indian Girl's Devotion." The company includes: Matthew H. Glenville, Cecil A. Melton, Fred Osmond, Percy H. Wood, Robert Mann, Chas. H. Gallier, Reginald T. Fox, Oscar Power, C. Crofton Jones, Wm. Emery, Harold Goodyier, Alice Buckland, Elaine Vanbrugh, Lilian Malvern, Margaret Hobart. Next week: "The Cowboy's Revenge."

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., The Wigan Entertainments Co., Ltd.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Francis Laidler presents "The Pride of Byzantia." The company includes: J. P. Marsden, Reg. Matthews, Will Lindsay, James Chippendale, Cliff Inman, Lucy Murray, Madge Soutter, Jessie Stern, Little Elsie Pennell, Little Mary O'Hara, Edith Coles, Ralph Morton, Alfred Clifton, Dorothy Vere. T. M., Mr. Wallace Stranack. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L., Mr. F. G. Kimberley; Mus. D., Mr. H. Bradley.—Paul Beckett and Leonard Laurence's company in "The Temptress of Paris" is proving a strong attraction here this week. Mr. Paul Beckett is satisfactory as Harry Mannering; Mr. Henry Beckett does well as Louis du Cressy; and Miss Enid Edoni at times is very dramatic as Rene Mannering. Able support is given by Leonard Laurence as Archie Chamberlain, Arthur T. Cresswell as Pierre Detour, Mr. Rowland Howard as Tony Onic, and Miss Georgie Loncraine as Isabella.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Sole L., Mr. Walter de Frece; Mus. D., Mr. T. Thursfield.—Sam Mayo, "the immobile one," heads the bill this week, and gives four of his best, which are rendered in that style peculiar to himself. Coleman and Alexander, the American singing duo, provide a turn which is quite refreshing in its originality. The eccentricities of those well-known comedians, the Brothers Griffiths, naturally keep the house in excellent humour; Owen Clark is certainly an original magician who performs tricks baffling and otherwise; Madge White, comedienne and mimic; Sydney and Hobart, acrobatic comedians; and Wynford Brothers, comedians and speciality dancers, complete an excellent bill.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Arthur Carlton.—This week (twice nightly) the Elliott Savonas in a musical combination; Signorina Elvina, trapeze artist; Charles Craston, comedian; Maggie Rimmer, vocalist and dancer; Howe and Hardie, comedians; Jen Asta, vocalist; Zarenella, trick artiste; and Fred Maitland and Co. in sketch.

WORKINGTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. M. Maud.—This week: Moore and Burgess's Minstrels touring company, under the direction of Mr. C. H. E. Phipps.

CARNEGIE HALL.—L., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. M. Maud.—This week: Riley's Revellers; Annette Campbell, the Scottish nightingale; and Nestah, the comic juggler.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. E. W. Silverthorne; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert A. Dyer.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Durrant Swan's company in "A Country Girl." T. M., Mr. E. R. Beaumont. The company includes: Mr. Douglas Phillips, Mr. Leon Simkin, Mr. Percy Everard, Mr. Frank W. Manger, Mr. C. S. Cartwright, Mr. Clifford Barrett, Mr. A. H. Lopresti, Mr. Jack Slater, Mr. Herbert Jones, Mr. Frank Clarke, Mr. Arthur Staples, Miss Monica Ellestree, Miss Ethel Negretti, Miss Florence Foster, Miss Paula Ferneau, Miss Lily Holden, Miss Maud Jennings, Miss Gertrude Borton, Miss Florence Seymour, Miss Gwen Ross, Miss Ivy Proudfoot. Matinée, Saturday, 2. Next week: "A King's Romance."

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; A. M., Mr. Sidney Brooke; Asst. M., Mr. Harry Best; Mus. D., Mr. F. Kell.—This week (twice nightly): Herbert Landeck and company, in "The Son of a Jew"; Violet Vandelle, chorus comedienne; the Ricados, Chinese illusionists; Bleriot's transformation and fairy fountain; Volta and Maude, acrobatic gymnasts; Billy Curzon, the confidential dame; Jeavon and Jena, assisted by their canine beauties; Deezo Kerdy, Hungarian 'cellist; pictures.

VARIETY LAW.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTE'S SUIT. DAMAGES FOR INJURIES.

In the King's Bench Division, on Monday, Mr. Justice Bankes and a common jury heard an action by Mr. William Horn, music hall artist, and a member of the troupe known as the Brothers Horn, residing at Hayter-road, Brixton, who sued Mr. William Williams, also a music hall artiste, of Brixton Hill, to recover damages for personal injuries alleged to have been sustained through the negligent driving of the defendant's motor-car. Mr. William Horn and his brothers, Christopher and James, also claimed compensation for loss of employment due to the accident. The defendant denied negligence.

Mr. Lort Williams and Mr. Penney appeared for the plaintiffs; and Mr. Lewis Thomas, K.C., and Mr. D. White for the defendant.

Mr. Williams, in opening the case, said that the plaintiffs played together in a boxing sketch. Early in the morning of June 8 last Mr. William Horn was proceeding home by tramcar, and alighted near Hayter-road. Before he could reach the pavement he was knocked down and run over by the defendant's motor-car. He was taken to St. Thomas's Hospital, where it was discovered that he was suffering from severe bruises and shock. In consequence of the accident the troupe were unable to take an engagement for three weeks.

Mr. William Horn gave evidence in support of counsel's statement. He added that he was perfectly sober when the accident occurred.

In cross-examination the witness said that he had been playing billiards during the evening, and had had two or three drinks. He did not remember the doctor at the hospital asking him if he had been drinking. He never took any liquor before evening. His drink in the daytime was soda and Angostura, and in the evening he took two bottles of stout after he had finished his work.

Mr. White: Is not soda and Angostura the drink you would take after a bad night?—I do not know.

Do you have anything to drink in your sketch?—Yes.

What do you have?—Water.

Out of a tankard?—Yes. (Laughter.)

Did you ever have beer on the stage?—Yes, but we used to slip on it, and we took to water. (Laughter.)

Do you blow the froth off the water on the stage?—There is no froth on water. (Laughter.)

James John Norman, a tramcar driver, stated that he saw Mr. William Horn knocked down and run over by the defendant's car, which was travelling at a speed of twenty miles an hour. The witness did not detect that the plaintiff had been drinking.

Septimus A. Hobday, conductor of the tramcar by which Mr. Horn travelled to Hayter-road, stated that Mr. Horn was perfectly sober at the time of the accident. The witness did not hear the defendant blow his whistle.

Mr. W. C. Fearn, who writes songs under the name of Fred Murray, stated that he saw Mr. Horn enter the tramcar on the morning of the accident, and he was then perfectly sober.

Mr. Christopher Horn stated that in consequence of the accident to his brother the troupe could not perform for three weeks. His brother had extra nourishment, including fish, fowl, and beef tea. It was possible that his brother did not know they were extras, because he lived so well. (Laughter.)

Mr. Justice Bankes: I suppose he had beef tea instead of beef steak. (Laughter.)

At the close of the plaintiffs' case,

Mr. Justice Bankes held that Mr. Christopher Horn and Mr. James Horn were not entitled to recover any damages in respect of the accident to their brother.

Clyde Burchett, chauffeur, stated that early on the morning of June 8 he was driving the defendant's motor-car up Brixton Hill, and just as he approached Hayter-road the plaintiff walked out in front of the tramcar and was knocked down. He had blown his whistle to indicate that his car was coming along.

Mr. Alfred Robinson and Mrs. Amy Williams, who were travelling in the motor-car, gave evidence to the effect that the driver of the motor-car blew the whistle as he was approaching the tramcar.

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff (Mr. William Horn) for £51 10s. 8d., and judgment was entered accordingly, with costs. Judgment was further entered for the plaintiff against the two other plaintiffs, without costs.

PANTOMIME SEQUEL.

Deputy Judge Lush, in the Westminster County Court, on Monday afternoon, heard the action of Sophie Houghton, described as an actress, who claimed ten guineas from Mr. Harry Burns, pantomime producer, being the balance of wages which the plaintiff alleged were due to her under a nine weeks' agreement.

Mr. G. W. H. Jones, counsel for the plaintiff, said the latter was a married woman, the wife of an Army pensioner, and for a number of years, since, in fact, she was nine years of age, she had been connected in a humble but honourable manner with the theatrical profession. In September last she was engaged by the defendant for a nine weeks' pantomime season, at 30s. a week, to appear in the chorus of "Dick Whittington." Included in the terms of contract were the following stipulations:—

"The artiste shall, as and when required by the proprietor, perform to the best of her skill and ability, as cast chorus, or as cast on tour, or any other theatre in the United Kingdom, or anywhere the proprietor may direct;

"The artiste shall find all special dresses, including tights, wigs, shoes,

FILM PLAY ARTISTES,

This column is devoted to the interests of actors and actresses who desire to appear in film plays, and of the managers who desire to engage them.

MR. H. R. WILLIAMS

Winner of Gold Medal and Certificate of Merit in Competition for Film Artistes,
INTERNATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA.

Business communications, c/o "The Era" Office.

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MISS MIGNON O'DOHERTY

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MR. HARRISON NOBLE

Gained "Special Merit" Award in Competition for Film Artistes,
INTERNATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA.

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NEW LIFE FOR THE PICTURES.

Roughly estimating the capital employed in the conduct of the picture palaces in the United Kingdom at £10,000,000, 75 per cent. of this is held by limited liability companies, and 25 per cent. is private owners' capital. It behoves the captains of this huge industry to maintain the interest of the public in picture shows. With this aim some of the strengthening methods employed have been to introduce coloured films, to put on a few variety turns, and to give a daily gazette portraying the events of the day in rivalry with the illustrated newspaper. These are answering very well, but there are still improvements needed and grave defects which should be remedied in the pictures thrown on the screen. The first and foremost defect is the flatness of the picture, then there is the flickering, which is very trying to the eyesight, and prevents the first few rows of seats in the auditorium being occupied with any degree of comfort by the audience.

Clever inventors have recognised that anything in the way of improvement, or in the remedying of defects in the projecting of the picture, would be welcomed by up-to-date exhibitors. Experiments have been made in the attempt to banish flicker and flatness, to create a stereoscopic effect in the picture shown, and to enable a spectator to intently gaze and study the picture without straining the eyes in any way. These desirable results have at last been achieved by the inventive genius of Mr. H. Dickinson, who has perfected and patented an apparatus which, cleverly combining the powers of reflection and refraction, gives a delightfully soft picture, with as high a stereoscopic relief as if the pictures were viewed naturally.

Cinematograph showmen will be asking whether the use of Mr. Dickinson's apparatus will necessitate any alteration in their existing projecting apparatus, or will special films be required? To these queries the answer is, no disturbance is needed. The stereoscopic effect is solely and inexpensively connected with the screen. A comparatively small initial outlay and a small weekly royalty secures this new method of projecting pictures. Every time a film is run from spool to spool the "rainy" season sets in, until the "rain" is so overwhelming that the film has to be relegated to the "junk." By the new method the life of the film is prolonged, and the ten million feet of "junk" film now on the market at about a farthing a foot, can still be satisfactorily used. The economy accruing from this one fact alone should be recognised by the big showmen and renters in general, and by the small showmen in particular.

Highgate Picture Palace.

At a meeting of the Islington Charities Committee, held at the Camden-road Athenæum on Monday evening, the president (Councillor Peskett) handed a cheque for £20 to Mr. Blyth, the hon. secretary of the North London Nursing Association, Holloway. This represented the proceeds of the recent entertainment at the Highgate Picture Palace. Mr. Blyth expressed warm thanks both on behalf of himself and the Association for this charitable and practical mark of sympathy.

FILM GOSSIP.

Kinemacolor at the Polytechnic.

Mr. Charles Urban has taken a lease of the theatre in the Polytechnic, Regent-street, W., and on and after Monday next will present twice daily, at 2.30 and 8 o'clock, a richly diversified Kinemacolor programme composed of carefully chosen subjects ranging over the whole of his now extensive repertory, and further introducing an entirely new and original series, specially taken for this entertainment, and illustrating Watt's discovery of steam power (1765) and the evolution of the steam engine (1769). There will be a full orchestral accompaniment to the exhibition, and prices of admission graded on popular lines. Mr. Alfred Corrick, lately of the Scala and previously of the Alhambra, will be Mr. Urban's manager at the Polytechnic.

Leicester Picture Theatres.

Some especially interesting pictures are shown at the Leicester Picture House this week, "The veil of the past" (in two parts) calling for the greatest praise. Others that fill up a good all-round programme include "The three black bags," "The winning hand," "Never forget the ring," "Seeing is believing," "The volunteer strike breakers," "The Valley of the Var," "The grand old city of York," "Ski-running," and the Gaumont Gazette and topical pictures.

At the Floral Hall Picture Theatre, where the programmes are always up to date, this week's list includes a most interesting two-part dramatic film, "A minister's daughter," which is supported by "A chance deception," "Off the road," "Now watch the professor," "Valley of the Var," and "What a change of clothes did."

At the Grand Electric Palace Mr. Bert Dent, who is continually adding other places to this circuit, provides a fine programme in "Fog," "Three black bags," "Never forget the ring," "Seeing is believing," "The higher duty," "Day that is dead," "For the honour of the Seventh," "Valley of the Var," "The governor's daughter," "The devil fish," and many others.

Limerick Rink Picture Palace.

Mr. Charles Coborn, the ever popular Monte Carlo "Bank Breaker," is here this week, and his repertoire of comic songs and monologues has been received with applause. "The topical budget" is the film favourite, and "A trip on the Seine" is a coloured pictorial of high merit.

Limerick Theatre Royal.

The popular manager, Mr. George V. Fogerty, introduced Mr. Mike Nono, one of the Limerick comedy favourites, and his songs and dancing have both been well received. The Gaumont Graphic has a rare excellence, and "The dash for the Pole" bits of excitement worthy of the Kalem brush.

Kinemacolor at Crystal Palace.

Under the auspices of the Anglo-German Exhibition a very fine series of Kinemacolor films will be shown for several weeks in the Crystal Palace Theatre. The large auditorium is especially suited for such an entertainment, and those shown this week were much appreciated. They comprised views on the Panama Canal, Lake Garda in Italy, a funny American cowboy story, and many of the Durbar pageant scenes. Especially interesting was a Bulgarian Army in the field series. A change is promised weekly.

"Famous Mosques of Central Asia."

The famous mosques of Central Asia shown on this interesting film, which is to be released by Gaumont Co. on May 22, are significant of the religious faith of a people who have passed through troublous times. In the view of Tachkent both the mosque and mausoleum of Khazrata Imam are seen. The mosques and minarets of Khokand are many, and those of Samarkand include the mosques of Chah-Zinde and Hodjahror. In this town we also see the Mohammedan school, the celebrated mosque of Bibi-Khanym and the Tchaar-Su quarter. Not the least of the town's attractions is the tomb of Tamerlane, the celebrated Tartar conqueror. 385ft.

"Agatha is Deserted."

This is a capital comic "trick" picture, to be released by the Urbanora Co. on May 21. Agatha has a soldier lover, but he is false to her. So life no longer has any charms for the broken-hearted lady, and she determines to end everything. She throws herself before a steam-roller, and is mangled flat, but a cyclist pumps her up again, and she is none the worse. She places her head on the tramway lines, but the car branches off in another direction. An express train suddenly reverses and steams backward rather than pass over her. At last she fixes a rope to a lamp-post, but it breaks and she falls into a room where another forsaken one is frantically embracing the portrait of his lost one. The two compare notes, and agree to console each other to their mutual joy. 360ft.

"Curious Scenes in India."

An interesting and educational scenic picture this, dealing with life in the Far East, showing a strange people and their stranger ways, dress, and religious ceremonies. It is to be released by the Edison Co. on May 28. We see queer-looking "pilgrims" in their fantastic dress and rites; a solemn religious ceremony, in which the immense "Temple elephant" is taken into the temple to receive his gorgeous trappings for the annual parade, which is also shown in a close view as it passes through the narrow crooked streets. We also see domesticated elephants of enormous size performing tasks requiring, in addition to their great strength, a higher degree of intelligence than has ever been attained by any other animal. In addition to the many other wonders of this picture we have a close view of wild elephants being captured and tethered to tree. 400ft.

Palatial Picture House for Paris.

A scheme has been conceived in Paris to build an underground theatre in the new Rue Edouard VII. The "Rue Edouard VII.," to be opened in a few weeks' time, promises to rival the Rue de la Paix for fashion. The property was bought by a company, of which the shareholders are mostly English. Many of the shops have already been let, and one theatre has been built. It belongs to Mr. Charles Urban, and will be the last word in picture palaces; at all events, as far as Paris is concerned. Here the comfort of a London cinema house is entirely unknown, and there should be a fortune awaiting the man who can put on a good show amidst luxurious surroundings. This Mr. Urban promises to do. The site is excellent, there can be no two questions about that. The Rue Edouard VII., being at a point practically adjoining the Olympia Theatre on the Boulevards, winds slightly to the left and finishes opposite the St. Petersburg Hotel in the Rue Caumartin. The whole length of the street is not more than fifty yards, and it is right in the centre of Parisian life and gaiety.

Experts View Oil Picture.

J. C. Bacters and R. J. Connors, two Chicago mining engineers, hearing that the American Film Manufacturing Co. were soon to release a two-reeler entitled "Oil on troubled waters," asked and were given permission to see the operation of oil wells in the ocean. Throughout the subject runs an industrial vein, and the American producer took advantage of his opportunities by producing not only a delightful story, but a highly interesting industrial as well. Messrs. Bacters and Connors were particularly interested in a 25 h.p. engine, which, operating through an eccentric cam, operates the entire forest of oil wells, the cam transmitting power to the wells by means of cables and triangles. This operating is clearly shown in the picture. The story was made at Summerland, Cal., the only region in the world where oil is taken from the ocean's bottom. This picture is now on exhibition.

S. S. Hutchinson has Narrow Escape.

S. S. Hutchinson and R. D. Armstrong, of the American Film Manufacturing Co., have just arrived back in America from the Hawaiian Islands, and relate an interesting experience with water buffalo. In the rice fields on the islands water buffaloes are used as being the only animals who can travel through the heavy muck. R. D. Armstrong, camera operator, had his camera fixed up and was taking pictures, with S. S. Hutchinson directing beside him, when the foremost buffalo charged. There followed a thrilling series of dodges behind the camera until a native rescued them. Both were thoroughly exhausted from the strenuous exercise in the ankle-deep mud.

Pigeon Studies.

To be released on May 22 by Kineto Co., this instructive and finely pictured film deals with various phases of pigeon life. The subject opens with a group of fancy pigeons; a close view of the blue fantail follows. A peep into the nest of the fantail is next given. A number of homing pigeons are snapped at feeding time. They are grouped expectantly round a large tin, unable to reach the food, which is hidden in its depths, until one bird manages to overturn the tin and scatter the grain. Some remarkable pictures are next given of homers in flight. The scandaroon earns the title of the ugliest of birds, because of its queer crooked beak and long scraggy neck. The Indian lowtan, a variety seldom seen in this country, is peculiarly susceptible to the so-called hypnotic influence. The subject concludes with some excellent photographs of pouter pigeons. 310ft.

"The Baby and the Cop."

This most amusing comedy is to be released on May 21 by the Western Import Co. Mrs. Brown thinks that she has the prettiest baby in the world; everybody else regards it as the plainest infant in the district. A doctor makes a great discovery in the form of a tonic to be placed in the baby's milk. Mrs. Brown gives the tonic to her baby, and it starts to grow at a wonderful rate. The nurse takes baby out for an airing, and while she is having a little flirtation it grows to be a plump, three-hundred pound wonder, and gets lost in the park. A diminutive policeman finds it, and has his own troubles getting it home to its surprised mother and relatives. 500ft.

"Bill's Birthday Present."

Under this title a pretty comedy film is to be released by the Selig Polyscope Co. on May 15. Bill essays to surprise his sweetheart with a present of slippers on the occasion of a dance given in honour of her birthday. His mischievous partner discovers the package, and exchanges the dainty slippers for cowpuncher's boots. The lady resents this by thumping the donor on the head with his gift. Bill has no courage to go to the dance; but, through the aid of his intelligent dog, discovers a fire that threatens the premises, and becomes a hero in spite of himself. This brings his partner around with the slippers and an apology, and Bill is restored to the good graces of his petulent sweetheart. 971ft.

The Banstead Drag.

This is an exceptionally interesting picture to be released by the Hepworth Co. on May 22. The firm shows the sport of drag hunting in all its phases, from the laying of the trial a couple of hours before the hunt commences, down to the finish, when the hounds are rewarded by a plentiful supply of meat. At the beginning of the picture we see the trail of aniseed being laid across the country, and soon after come the hounds in full cry, with the whole of the field behind them. Several nasty spills occur at some of the larger jumps, and it is only after a long and exciting chase that the end of the run is reached, and the field, after dismounting from their panting horses, stand round watching the hounds partaking of a good feed at the end of their arduous labours. 425ft.

Mat-making by Madagascan Natives.

In this interesting and instructive picture, to be released by Pathé Frères, Ltd., on May 14, we see the women propelling their canoe up and down the narrow channels which cut through the mighty forest of reeds. So thick and strong is the growth that the tall reeds almost meet above the women's heads. They come to the appointed place, and soon fill their canoe with the reeds, which they cut with large knives. Next we see the preparation of the reeds; women are sitting in the sun slitting and sorting them, after which they are ready for the weaver, whose busy hands soon convert them into the finished article, which is called a "sobiko" by the Madagascans. All the workers, with the exception of the overseer, are women, who seem very happy in the bright sunshine. 324ft.

From Kandy to Colombo.

This is a picturesque film, to be released by the Eclair Company on May 15. Soon after leaving Kandy the route lies along sunny plains; then suddenly the train plunges into a dense tropical forest, where many varieties of palm trees are to be seen, and also the cocoa tree. A little further the railway line runs alongside hills and rocks, penetrated at intervals by tunnels, through which the train makes its way. Nearing Colombo the path lies through widespreading rice fields, one of the great productions of the neighbourhood, and by the side of marshy ground, where gaily-coloured flowers present a strange appearance at the water's edge. 315ft.

NEW PICTURE HALL OPENED AT DURHAM

The Globe Picture Hall, Durham, was opened on Monday evening by the Mayor and Mayoress of Durham, when a well varied programme was much appreciated by a full house. An excellent orchestra is under the control of Mr. L. Armstrong. The dimensions of the building are 70 feet in length and 25 feet in width, with a gallery accommodating 500 at the rear. The seating space is ample, the chairs being tip-up in all parts of the house. There are seven exits, enabling the building to be cleared in a few minutes. Messrs. Hopper and Sons, a local firm, have artistically decorated the interior of the hall, the effects produced being of a most pleasing description. The furnishing was entrusted to Messrs. Harker, Ltd., of Sunderland, who have completed their contract in a highly satisfactory manner.

The building has been designed by Messrs. Shawbrooks, Kell, and Wylie (Newcastle), and constructed by Messrs. Jasper Kell and Sons, of Durham. The British Westinghouse Co., of Manchester, have supplied the electric plant, and Messrs. Cain and Co., of Newcastle, have installed the electric light. The comfort of the patrons has been studied in every particular by the Durham Cinema Co.

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

At the ordinary general meeting of the executive committee of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, Limited, held on Wednesday, April 30, Mr. E. M. Barker having resigned his occupancy of the chair, Dr. R. T. Jupp was, on the motion of Mr. E. M. Barker, seconded by Mr. F. P. Aulton, unanimously elected interim chairman, and Mr. W. Fowler Pettie, on the motion of Mr. F. W. Ogden Smith, seconded by Mr. Beck, was elected interim vice-chairman. Mr. L. Schlentheim proposed, and Mr. F. P. Aulton seconded, a very hearty vote of thanks to the retiring chairman, which was carried with acclamation, and Mr. E. M. Barker responded.

After the minutes of previous meetings had been read and confirmed, the secretary made a report with respect to the establishment of a branch in Staffordshire. The new Yorkshire branch was showing great promise, and as it covered the whole of Yorkshire, it was anticipated that this would become a very powerful district. The secretary further reported that at the request of Mr. Sidney Bacon he had attended before the Carlisle Magistrates in view of certain rules which it was proposed to bring into force in connection with the licences for that town. The Magistrates gave a very courteous and attentive hearing to the arguments placed before them by the secretary and Mr. Lindon Travers, chairman of the Northern branch, and intimated that they were satisfied that the censorship instituted by the British Board of Film Censors would be effective, and meet their views, and accepted their assurance with respect to other regulations, which it was intimated would not be enforced.

A financial statement for the first year's working of the Association was submitted, and correspondence discussed.

The Executive Committee received a deputation consisting of Mr. A. A. James and Mr. J. P. Moore, from the Birmingham and Midland Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association. The deputation explained the desire of the Association to amalgamate with the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, Ltd., subject to certain conditions which were discussed. The committee was able to meet the proposals of the delegates, and steps will be taken to consolidate and develop the Exhibitors' Association in the Midlands.

THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH MANUFACTURERS AND RENTERS.

A report was submitted by Dr. R. T. Jupp as to the present situation with respect to the various meetings and negotiations which have been proceeding since March 27. The agreement, it was intimated, was now in the hands of the solicitors for the purpose of having certain clauses finally settled and agreed, and a further report will be submitted at the next meeting, giving full details of the agreement arrived at.

DINNER SUB-COMMITTEE.

A report from the Dinner Sub-Committee was submitted, which stated that the dinner had passed off very successfully, the chair having been occupied by Dr. R. T. Jupp, and Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., and Mr. Cutliffe Hyne having been present as guests of the Association. The excellent programme of music which was provided through the good offices of Dr. Jupp was much appreciated, and the secretary intimated that the financial result had been entirely satisfactory.

SIR GEORGE ASKWITH AND THE VARIETY ARTISTS' FEDERATION AWARD.

The Secretary reported that he had attended before Sir George Askwith, who he found was only dealing with the award with reference solely to variety artistes, and the points being discussed did not affect exhibitors.

LIVERPOOL REGULATIONS.

A report was submitted by the Sub-committee which had been acting with reference to the new regulations imposed by the Liverpool magistrates. The report stated that Dr. Jupp and Mr. L. Schlentheim had attended meetings of the Liverpool Association, and in consultation with that body agreed to the briefing of counsel who had appeared on behalf of all the Liverpool exhibitors. The magistrates had declined to make any alterations in the rules, and it was intimated that a case would be taken to the divisional court, and, if necessary, to the higher court, in order to test the power of the magistrates to enforce a number of the regulations which were considered to be ultra vires.

A large number of new members were enrolled.

FILMS OF THE MOMENT.

RELEASE DATES.

KINETO, LTD.	
Unattractive Pets, 420ft.	May 15
Rambles in the Inner Hebrides, 400ft.	May 17
Pigeon Studies, 310ft.	May 22
Visit to Kingston, 435ft.	May 24
The Child of a Suffragette, 990ft.	May 29
On the Firth of Clyde, 375ft.	May 31
THE AMERICAN CO.	
Calamity Anne, Detective, 995ft.	May 10
Lonesome Joe, 970ft.	May 14
An Eastern Flower, 973ft.	May 17
The Lesson, 920ft.	May 17
Calamity Anne's Beauty, 998ft.	May 21
The Renegade's Heart, 994ft.	May 24
Cupid Never Ages, 996ft.	May 24
The Mute Witness, 990ft.	May 28
Cupid Throws a Brick, 990ft.	May 31
Matches, 994ft.	May 31
EDISON CO.	
A Letter to Uncle Sam, 1,000ft.	May 10
The Lorely, 1,000ft.	May 10
The Princess and the Man, 1,000ft.	May 14
The Ranch-owner's Love-making, 1,000ft.	May 14
Sally's Romance, 1,000ft.	May 14
The Phantom Ship, 1,000ft.	May 17
It Wasn't Poison After All, 650ft.	May 17
Bees and Honey, 350ft.	May 17
The Governess, 1,000ft.	May 21
A Modern Horse, 350ft.	May 21
Aunt Elsa's Visit, 650ft.	May 21
Barry's Breaking In, 1,000ft.	May 24
Mother's Lazy Boy, 1,000ft.	May 24
The Old Monk's Tale, 1,000ft.	May 24
Curious Scenes in India, 400ft.	May 28
The Mountaineers, 1,600ft.	May 28
The Unprofitable Boarder, 1,000ft.	May 28
The Minister's Temptation, 1,000ft.	May 31
Confidence, 1,000ft.	May 31
PATHE FRERES.	
The Strange Case of Peter Ramussen, 2,224ft.	May 10
A Runaway Match, 948ft.	May 10
Desert Sand, 1,198ft.	May 10
The Gingerbread Man, 617ft.	May 10
Cookie Wins a Prize, 593ft.	May 10
Deep Sea Trawling off the Australian Coast, 532ft.	May 10
Jungle Clearing in the Malay States, 225ft.	May 10
The Blood Feud, 911ft.	May 10
The Tenderfoot, 1,031ft.	May 10
Mary, the Flower Girl, 1,305ft.	May 10
Genoa, a Famous Italian City, 369ft.	May 14
Madagascan Natives Mat-making, 324 ft.	May 14
The Promise, 872ft.	May 14
The Half-Breed's Foster Sister, 1,027ft.	May 14
The Snare of Souls, 918ft.	May 14
Vendetta, 1,143ft.	May 14
The Birthday Gift, 684ft.	May 14
The Lordly Nigger, 450ft.	May 14
When Thieves Fall Out, 2,145ft.	May 14
A Dog and a Monkey Variety Turn, 593ft.	May 14
Reaping the Whirlwind, 1,688ft.	May 14
An Unrequited Passion, 831ft.	May 14
GAUMONT CO.	
The Power of Money, 3,340ft.	May 11
The Missing Pearl, 1,055ft.	May 11
Simple Simon and the Golden Ass, 575ft.	May 11
By Power of Will, 970ft.	May 15
Fishing Off the Coast of Tunis, 240ft.	May 15
Simple Simon and the Panel Doctor, 660ft	May 15
Corcavado, 180ft.	May 15
Saved by his Child, 1,435ft.	May 18
The Islands of New Zembla, 290ft.	May 18
Up a Tree, 995ft.	May 18
Ocean Life, 400ft.	May 18
Tiny Tim Steals an Elephant, 750ft.	May 18
URBANORA CO.	
The Japanese Dagger, 2,070ft.	May 14
Sammy Dupes His Creditors, 425ft.	May 14
The Western Pyrenees and Gascony, 440ft.	May 14
A Thief's Accomplice, 1,260ft.	May 21
Picturesque British Columbia, 310ft.	May 21
When O'Flannigan Made His Will, 495ft.	May 21
Agatha is Deserted, 360ft.	May 21
SELIG POLYSCOPE CO.	
Pierre of the North, 1,017ft.	May 11
Buddha, 170ft.	May 11
Don't Let Mother Know, 998ft.	May 11
Pierre of the North, 1,017ft.	May 11
Buddha, 170ft.	May 11
Don't Let Mother Know, 998ft.	May 11
Two Men and a Woman, 1,133ft.	May 15
Bill's Birthday Present, 971ft.	May 15
Range Law, 1,000ft.	May 18
Nobody's Boy, 788ft.	May 18
The Pink Opera Cloak, 1,000ft.	May 18
WESTERN IMPORT CO.	
The Nephews from Labrador, 1,000ft.	May 10
Vengeance is Mine, 1,000ft.	May 10
Rowdy Came Home, 985ft.	May 10
Out of the Dark, 1,000ft.	May 14
Ma and Dad, 1,000ft.	May 14
Love on the Telephone, 1,000ft.	May 14
Pa's Medicine, 500ft.	May 17
Only a Miller's Daughter, 1,000ft.	May 17
All on Account of a Banana, 1,000ft.	May 17
Warning, 1,000ft.	May 21
The Wrecked Taxi, 1,000ft.	May 21
The Baby and the Cop, 500ft.	May 21
Bedelia has Toothache, 520ft.	May 21
The Hazers Hazed, 500ft.	May 24
Half Way to Reno, 1,000ft.	May 24
A Mystery of Wall Street, 1,000ft.	May 24
One Hundred Dollar Bill, 1,000ft.	May 24
HEPWORTH CO.	
The Cat and the Chestnuts, 800ft.	May 11
Held for Ransom, 1,025ft.	May 15
Hawkeye Rides in a Point-to-Point, 525ft.	May 15
And He Had a Little Gun, 400ft.	May 18
The Lesson, 975ft.	May 22
The Banstead Drag, 425ft.	May 22
Poorluck, Journalist, 550ft.	May 25
The Mysterious Philanthropist, 1,200ft.	May 29
Haunted by Hawkeye, 750ft.	May 29
J. FRANK BROCKLISS, LTD.	
Business Man's Wife, 994ft.	May 10
Si's Surprise Party, 942ft.	May 10
Sheriff Pro Tem., 1,041ft.	May 10
Jones's Wedding Day, 942ft.	May 11
Day at West Point, 315ft.	May 11
One of the Bravest, 601ft.	May 11
Boniface as a Shop Assistant, 357ft.	May 11
Dressmaker's Bills, 528ft.	May 14
Hater of Women, 965ft.	May 14
The Broken Ring, 980ft.	May 15
Little Mother Wants a Mamma, 967 ft.	May 15
More Haste, Less Speed, 720ft.	May 15
Early in the Morning, 414ft.	May 15
On the Slopes of the Alpine Giant, 348ft.	May 15
M. P. SALES AGENCY.	
A.B.	
Fate, 1,046ft.	May 11
The Power of the Camera, 462ft.	May 11
A Rich Revenge, 988ft.	May 11
His New Lid, 571ft.	May 11
The Proposal, 469ft.	May 15
The Old Grey Mare, 432ft.	May 15
A Girl's Stratagem, 1,006ft.	May 15
Near to Earth, 1,008ft.	May 18
All Hail to the King, 577ft.	May 18
Love Among the Roses, 992ft.	May 18
How Hubby Got a Raise, 424ft.	May 18
WELT.	
National Festivity in the Bavarian Mountains, 225ft.	May 11
The Grave-Digger's Ambition, 330ft.	May 15
KALEM.	
The Buckskin Coat, 1,018ft.	May 11
Sally's Guardian, 608ft.	May 11
What New York is Doing for its Blind, Deaf, and Dumb, 4,518ft.	May 11
The Sheriff of Stone Gulch, 985ft.	May 15
The Blind Composer's Dilemma, 1,025ft.	May 15
The Message of the Palms, 998ft.	May 18
Odd Occupations in New York, 623ft.	May 18
Absent-minded Abe, 348ft.	May 18
LUBIN.	
On the Mountain, 1,031ft.	May 11
The First Prize, 1,025ft.	May 11
When John Brought Home His Wife	May 15
Sixes and Nines, 400ft.	May 15
The Soul of a Rose, 1,014ft.	May 15
An Adventure on the Mexican Border, 1,825ft	May 18
Jane's Waterloo, 648ft.	May 18
Greed for Gold, 1,025ft.	May 18
B. AND C.	
Deal and Walmer, 363ft.	May 11
Manufacture of Jappi Jappa Hats, 412ft.	May 15
Lieut. Daring and the Labour Riots, 1,283ft.	May 18
H. AND B.	
Winchester, 410ft.	May 18
COMET.	
Two Women and One Man, 1,008ft.	May 11
A Seminary Complication, 1,008ft.	May 15
AQUILA.	
D'Artagnan the Brave, 1,686ft.	May 11
THE ECLAIR CO.	
Fight for an Inheritance, 2,770ft.	May 11
Funnicus as a Hero 520ft.	May 11
Daddy, 839ft.	May 11
Telegraph Operator, 940ft.	May 11
The Spectre Bridegroom, 1,900ft.	May 15
Gontran's Little Worries, 575ft.	May 15
From Kandy to Colombo, 315ft.	May 15
The Rotifer, 475ft.	May 15

Picture Season at the Brit.

The Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, commenced on Monday a picture season. Mr. Adelstone is acting as manager, and Mr. Fred Allwood has forsaken his position as musical-director to play to the pictures. Amongst the star films this week the favourite was the English fighting story, "A sporting chance."

The Noah's Ark Fair, to be held in aid of the funds of the London Hospital at the Albert Hall on June 11 and 12, has aroused great interest in H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, so much so that she has graciously consented to become president of a stall of prints which is being supplied by the Medici Society. The list of stall-holders and helpers is now nearly complete. Princess Louise is to be assisted by several well-known people. The list also includes the Duchess of Sutherland, who is to preside at a display of Japanese gardening.

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The Stanley (Durham) Trades Exhibition is to be held at the Skating Rink in that town from June 5 to 15. Prospectus and plans may be had from the manager.

The wonderful and thrilling pictures of Cherry Kearton's "Wild animal hunt," now being shown at the Palace Theatre, are attracting widespread interest, and recent visitors include:—Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Teck and family, Lord and Lady Knollys, Lord Suffield, Marquis of Lansdowne, &c., &c., and to-day (Friday) the Lord Mayor signifies his intention of being present, together with Lord Charles Beresford and the following well-known airmen:—Mons. Nardini, C. H. Greswell, Gustav Hamel, Miss Trehawke Davis, Lieut. J. C. Porte, E. Whitehouse, Herbert H. Matthews, Richard T. Gates, Pierre Verrier, Louis Noel, E. Vitry, Mrs. Stocks, Capt. J. C. Halahan, C. Grahame White, Lieut. H. G. Ramsay-Fairfax.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

APRIL.

"A Jungle Romance," romantic musical sketch, by Wilfred Douthitt; Coliseum, April 7.
"I've Bought a Pub," farcical sketch, in one act, by E. C. Matthews; Empire, Shoreditch, April 7.
"Hello, Exchange!" tragi-comedy, by Edgar Wallace; London Pavilion, April 7.
"Scalped," sketch; South London, March 31; Empire, Edmonton, April 7.
"Who Sez So?" sketch, by Wal Pink; Rotherhithe Hippodrome, April 7.
"All the Winners," revue, by C. H. Bovill, music composed and arranged by Cuthbert Clarke; Empire, April 9.
"The Doctor's Prescription," sketch, by James Malam; Battersea Palace, April 11; Canning Town, April 28.
"The Manager's Dream," sketch, book and lyrics by Edgar Wallace, music by Arnold Blake; Chelsea Palace, April 14.
"The Shoplifter," sketch, with musical numbers; Camberwell Empire, April 14.
"Everywife," symbolic play, in four scenes, by George V. Hobart; Coliseum, April 14.
"The Confession," sketch; Putney Hippodrome, April 14.
"Sixteen-String Jack," comedy-drama, in four acts; Foresters, April 14.
"Come Over Here," revue, by Max Pemberton, produced by Gus Sohlke; London Opera House, April 19.
"Visions of a Night," mystical musical comedy, in three scenes, by C. S. Self, music by A. E. B. Ansley; Camberwell Empire, April 21.
"Once a Thief," dramatic sketch, in three scenes, by Henry Blossom; Empress, Brixton, April 21.
"The Soldier and the Girl," sketch by Worton David and Bert Lee; Chiswick Empire, April 21.
"A Fairy Story," playlet, by Henry Bedford; Tivoli, Manchester, April 25.
"The Quality of Mercy," playlet; Bedford, April 28.
"Honi Soit . . . !" "triangular" sketch, by Laurence Cowen; Tivoli, April 28.
"The Bank of Big Ideas," sketch, by Drexel H. B. Sharman; Camberwell Empire, April 28.
"Her Ladyship," comedy sketch, by Harry Grattan (for the first time in the West End); Coliseum, April 28.
"After the Production," musical comedy sketch, by Bert Lee; Empress, Brixton, April 28.
"Nevada," revised version of Harry M. Vernon's sketch, "Don't You Believe It!"; Shepherd's Bush Empire, April 28.
"A Military Miss," comedietta, with music; London Pavilion, April 28.
"The Westerner," melodramatic sketch; London Pavilion, April 28.

THE EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

A good bill is being presented here this week, as versatile as one could wish. J. W. Gallagher is a capital eccentric comedian, both his songs, "I'd rather not" and "Thumbs up!" being well received. The Rochester Sextette's "first appearance in this country" is not a very promising one. Described as harmonising vocalists and dancers—their dancing was more successful than their vocal efforts, which were very disappointing—the duet should be "cut out." Fred Elton has a unique scena in his "Concert on Board a Liner," the best number of which is "He's such a little cherub when he's sleeping," which is excellent. Fanny and Harry Dent contribute some smart patter and good comic business in their "Mary and the Squire." They are quite a clever duo; and Rell and Butt in "Trouble on the Stage" are genuinely funny in an act entirely different to any we have seen. More should be heard of two such capable comedians.

Charlotte Parry, in a psychological fantasy, "Into the Light," by Frank Lyman, reveals herself a wonderful protean actress, and had a great reception on the night of our visit; the climax to the act is very cleverly worked. Beatrice Allen, a charming vocal comedienne, proves herself the possessor of a sweet voice in "Maloney's rag-time ball" and a song about the seaside girl. She is a pretty girl, and very lively and vivacious, and looked particularly lovely in her "boy's" costume. Herbert Sleath's company, in one of the first and, perhaps, one of the best of American "crook" sketches, "The Third Degree," occupy a prominent place in the bill, as does Jack Lorimer, the Highland laddie. Both his songs, "Seaside promenade" and "The Scotch Chinee," are very clever, and his eccentric dance, which finishes the turn, brought down the house. Chas. T. Aldrich, described as "America's foremost illusionist—the man of many parts," is presenting a wonderful act comprising character impersonations, juggling, and a little conjuring. Mr. Pierre de Reeden has recently been appointed musical conductor here.

The Adras Trio, acrobats, and Jean Campbell, Scottish contralto, are appearing this week at the South Moor Arcadia.

The Five M.P.'s, Musical Palmers; Daisy Alma, comedienne and dancer; and Will Lyle, comedian, are in the bill this week at the Wordsley Olympia.

The Middlesbrough Empire this week has the following twice-nightly programme:—Erard's Vaudevillians; Harry Rogerson, comedian; the De Mayos, comediennes and dancers; Talbot and Pearce, in "Over the Garden Wall"; Tony Nelson, assisted by Mis Tilly; Richmond Roxburgh, singer; Barry Mills and Kitty Mac, comedy duo; Fred Conquest and company in "What a Dog"; pictures.

Mr. Will Evans, the well-known comedian, will be seen for the first time on the Bioscope, in his "Harnessing a Horse" sketch, at the Hackney Picture Palace, on Thursday, May 15.

The trite saying that "nothing succeeds like success" has been strikingly exemplified at the New Middlesex Theatre, Drury-lane, with regard to the French revue, "J'Adore Ca!" Since its most prosperous days the theatre has never been so crowded as it has during the past week, and the demand for seats next week has exceeded all bounds. The revue will continue to be presented twice nightly.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck and family were present on Friday, April 28, at the Palace Theatre and witnessed Cherry Kearton's wonderful sporting pictures, and expressed themselves highly delighted. Indeed, Prince Alexander of Teck was kind enough to say that, speaking from personal experience, they were most realistic, and truly reproduced the doings of wild animals in their natural surroundings.

Miss Lena Kent, who deputised for Miss Evie Green at the Oxford charity matinée on Thursday afternoon, with Mr. Victor Marmont at the piano, proved herself to be a high-class artiste with a great future. Miss Kent received a well-deserved encore for her excellent rendering of "The Rosary," her sweet, carefully trained contralto voice being heard to great advantage in this song. Her other song, Tosti's "Good-bye," was also received with enthusiasm.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

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Guild Meeting at Leicester Fair.

On Monday morning last, May 5, there was a well-attended meeting of showpeople at 11 o'clock in Twigdon's picture show at Leicester Fair. Mr. S. Jeffreys was chairman, and amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Twigdon, Mr. and Mrs. R. Deeks, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sayler, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Case, Mr. Hodgini, Mr. J. Whyatt, Mr. Alfred Twigdon, Mr. Gandtz, Mr. G. Kent, Mr. J. Hampton, Mr. G. Hitchcock, Mr. A. James, Mr. F. Westrop, Mr. Goodridge, and Mr. A. H. Proverbs (who acted as secretary of the gathering). In addition to the above, and others not named, there were present a goodly number of friends of the Guild, and the employees of the shows and other amusements. The Rev. T. Horne, general secretary and chaplain, was the principal speaker.

The Chairman on Trade Defence.

Mr. S. Jeffrey, in opening the proceedings, said the true point of view for showpeople to take with regard to the Guild was to look upon it a sa trade protection society. In all trades and professions there were protective associations. Take, for example, the many trade unions acting for the interests of the workers, and the masters' combines and associations to defend the capitalists' interests.

Look at municipal and Parliamentary associations. What did they exist for? Why, to defend the class interests they represented. Shopkeepers and traders in every town had their Ratepayers' Associations to secure wise and economical local government. Their Guild had to look after all their many interests: To defend the showpeople against attack from public bodies and to preserve the people's popular fairs.

He, personally, entirely disagreed with those people that would narrow the wide scope of the Guild's work. However desirable it might be to deal with some of their own internal troubles, such, for instance, as giving a preference to Guild members over non-members, they must not overlook the important—the all-important—fact that the outside troubles and the outside dangers were the objects for which the Guild primarily existed. In their Guild they had built up a wall of defence to secure their liberty to carry on their business as amusement providers without interference from fanatical busybodies, or from local authorities.

He could not refrain from paying a tribute of appreciation to the splendid work of their Chaplain. It was no small honour for them to be able to say "We have a clergyman of the National Church to minister to us in the higher things of God." Their Guild and their honoured Chaplain gave them a status and a position in the national life of incalculable value. Let all of them rally to its support, and maintain it in full vigour for its good work. He would now ask the Rev. Thomas Horne, Guild Chaplain, to address the meeting.

The Triumph of Parliamentary Work.

The Chaplain was enthusiastically received on rising to speak. He claimed for the Guild that if nothing else had been done but the Parliamentary Trade Defence work, that the old Guild had more than justified its existence. Sixty to seventy centres of their trade and business enterprises would have been closed against them but for the defence work of the Guild. Twenty or more fairs would have been abolished, and the right to carry on private business lost to them as a body, but for the Guild and its work. But that was not all. Their greatest triumph was the utter defeat of the Movable Dwellings Bill, and the acknowledgment of their position and status as traders and amusement providers by the Imperial Parliament. These were some of the many benefits that the old Guild had secured for showland. He had a most encouraging message for that meeting. For the first time for sixteen years they had no Bill to fight in Parliament. When the sessions of Parliament opened there were no Bills of importance, except one, and that was the Bill of the Corporation of Aberystwyth, in Wales. He reminded the meeting of the great victory of two years ago over the Corporation of Luton, and the victory last year over Tavistock.

Aberystwyth sought similar powers to those refused to Luton, Tavistock, and other towns on the petition of the Guild. Aberystwyth wanted to have a ring fence of three miles in every direction from the heart of the town, and inside that circle no fairs could be held without the licence of the Corporation.

There was a reasonable doubt as to whether the Corporation meant cattle fairs, pleasure fairs, or both. To settle that point, negotiations were opened with Aberystwyth. Happily, for the general interests of showpeople, Mr. Henry Studt, the leading lessee of Welsh fairs, and himself, acting together, obtained the necessary assurances and amendments in the Bill itself, to make it clear that neither pleasure fairs nor private business would be penalised. This was a peaceful settlement by agreement, and not after expensive struggle in Parliament.

How the Guild Benefits Showpeople.

In the first place it secures their right and freedom to live in their movable homes without the invasion of the police. It defends the sanctity and the purity, the honesty and the integrity of show life. It secures equal rights for showmen with all other classes and workers in the community. Its second great sphere of work is to prevent the abolition of the people's fairs, feasts, wakes, and local holidays by either restrictive bye-laws or by Private Bill legislation. Thirdly, it promotes the uplifting and the betterment of the people's popular amusements. For each of these necessary and good works he claimed for the Guild the hearty support and the co-operation of all showpeople. For these great objects he made his appeal to that meeting. (Great applause.)

ANGLO-GERMAN EXHIBITION,
CRYSTAL PALACE,
May to October.

WANTED,
SIDE SHOWS
AND
AMUSEMENT DEVICES
of every description.

Sharing terms or rental.
Exceptional facilities offered.

Apply to F. R. YEULETT,
Administration Offices, Crystal Palace, S.E.

Guild Subscriptions at Leicester, 1913.

Mr. Arthur Twigdon, £1 1s.; Mr. Richard Deeks, 10s.; Mr. J. Gandtz, 10s.; Mr. George Kent, 10s.; Mr. Hodgini, 10s.; Mr. Hitchcock, 5s.; Mr. Sayer, 5s.; Mr. S. Case, 5s.; Mr. J. Whyatt, 5s.; Mr. J. Hampton, 5s.; Mr. A. James, 5s.; Mr. Alfred Twigdon, 5s.; Mr. F. Westrop, 5s.; Mr. Goodridge, 5s.; Mr. T. Roberts, 5s.; Mr. E. Horton, 5s.; Mr. A. Harris, 5s.; Mr. G. Watts, 5s.; and Mr. A. H. Proverbs (hon. member), 5s.

Guild Subscriptions, 1913.

Lady Arthur Grosvenor (hon. member), £3.

National Health Insurance and Showpeople.

The Insurance Commissioners have issued a memorandum to the Health Committees throughout the country in which they announce a modification of the existing system of financial adjustment in respect of the medical treatment of insured persons temporarily, or for a short time, changing their place of residence.

This new scheme supplants the older one, whereby the medical benefit was transferred from one committee to another on the change of residence of an insured person. The new regulation is to remedy a difficulty which experience has shown to exist. The majority of persons changing their residence have not hitherto taken advantage of this means of taking with them the medical benefit to which they have paid, the fact being that people do not remember whilst they are in good health to see about the transfer, but only take trouble if they fall ill.

The new regulation provides that from April 15 the treatment of all temporary residents by panel doctors will be paid for on an attendance basis. The doctor's fees will be paid out of a central fund to be set up by the Commissioners and maintained by transfer of funds from the local Health Committees to the Central Body.

Up to the present time the outside limit of temporary residence is three months. To meet the case of the showman on tour for nine or ten months out of the twelve, all that is required is that the privilege shall be extended to other than the seaside holiday classes that the new regulations are primarily intended for to people periodically moving for the greater part of the year from town to town. The stumbling block that has hitherto slowed down the activities of the Commissioners in providing for exceptional cases was the difficulty of getting a working agreement with the doctors. This difficulty has at last been overcome, and a satisfactory scale of fees for attending casual cases has been arranged, and it now only needs the extension of the benefits in the direction we have indicated.

We are glad to acknowledge that the Actors' Association and the Variety Artistes' Federation, as well as the Showmen's Guild, have drawn the attention of the National Health Commissioners to the difficulties attending their avocation in life, and the necessity for making exceptional but adequate provision. As far as the insured person is concerned, the scheme that we outlined during our interview with the official at the Board office will most probably be adopted. Wherever the showman has his winter quarters that will be his town or place of residence, and the Health Committee for that town will supply him with a voucher or certificate, which, in the event of needing medical attendance whilst on circuit, he will have to show to the doctor upon whom he may call or for whom he may send.

Aberdare Fair was kept in grand style by both people and entertainers. The shows were the well-known concerns of Hagger and Sons, T. White, J. Day, T. Wortley, J. Scarratt, Carr, T. Sullivan, and Bennett. The scenic railways were a special feature of the fair, and included the splendid sets of Messrs. H. Studt and Son, Jacob Studt and Sons, J. Evans, S. White, and Fletcher; gallopers by Messrs. H. Studt and Son, Matthews, Butler, and Butlin; swings and highfliers by Messrs. Freeman, Leonard, Holmes, Smith, and Matthews; shooters by Messrs. Leonard, Scott, and Davies; novelties and side shows by Messrs. Crecraft, Carr Bros., Davies, Healy, Studt, White, Jarvis, and Smith; cokers, football penalties, houpla circles, and squares by Messrs. Deakin, Symonds, North, Gardner, Butler, Cooper, Davies, Matthews, Freeman, Holmes, and Clark.

A great feature at Aberdare Fair consisted of the flannel stalls, fifty in number, for the sale of native woven flannels. Mr. H. Studt is the originator of the revival of native industry.

Mr. Sid White was the lessee and chief amusement caterer at Tredegar Fair. There were scenic railway, galloping horses, swings, shooters, bazaars, and throwing games; in fact, all the jolly fun of the fair.

Aberavon Fair was maintained by Messrs. H. Studt and Son, with magnificent scenic railway, roundabouts, and switchback. With the lessee were many providers of minor amusements, with shooting ranges, boxing saloons, side shows, and throwing games in grand array. Bostock's menagerie paid a visit to Aberavon, to the delight of the inhabitants.

AMUSEMENTS IN BOMBAY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BOMBAY, April 18.—Cinema de Luxe.—Nat Clifford has played a most successful season here under the Cinema Theatres, Ltd., and has taken on an average four or five curtains nightly. His big successes have been "The toreador," "The Grand Hotel," "Waterloo," "Booze," and several fine character studies—"Laugh and the world laughs with you," "Dartmoor," &c. Nat has been more than popular, and renewed many old acquaintanceships here amongst the "exiles" from home. His partnership turn under the name of Melrose and Franklin has likewise been productive of good fun, and in playing "Washing the baby" they gave Bombay some of their best humour. Another great attraction has been Sir Mark Anton, the protean artiste, in his impersonations of famous musical conductors. Night after night he has packed the Alcazar and Cinema de Luxe. His turn was quite a novelty for this city, and his quick-change sketch, "Caught red-handed," was a source of wonderment to the natives. By way of a change this week he has played the sketch with fine, white-net scenery, and thus enabled the audience to see there is only one Sir Mark Anton playing all the parts. Other artistes who have played under the syndicate this past few weeks include Forshaw Kershaw, a brilliant artiste at the piano; Belle Brocade, a charmingly gowned singer of chorus songs; Miss Gladys Kerr, a winsome coon singer and dancer; Miss Irene Beryl, one of the prettiest and daintiest-dressed dancers we have seen here.

Alvaro, a magician with a big name out East, who has a wonderful collection of Eastern and Western illusions, played a season at the Alcazar and the Alhambra, and drew fine business during his stay. He has some tricks that are really clever, and he was warmly complimented by several artistes staying here on his show. He is a much-travelled man, and he has many weird stories of his travels in Northern India. During his stay he had the assistance of a clever duo, Daly and Ray, just arrived from home, and who have a fine collection of gags coupled with a clever turn of clog-dancing.

Most of these artistes are booked for Calcutta at the Royal Opera House. Artistes in South Africa can get across from Beira, and will find the cinema theatres' agent in Johannesburg. Artistes visiting Australia can get from Colombo in three days by P. and O., but bookings should be arranged, as I do not advise any artiste coming out on "spec."

New Patents.

This list is specially compiled for "The Era" by Messrs. Rayner and Co., Registered Patent Agents, of 37, Chancery-lane, London, from whom all information relating to patents, designs, trade marks, etc., can be obtained graturtously.

LATEST PATENT APPLICATIONS.

9769.—Max Langer. Automatic switch apparatus for electrically illuminated advertisements and the like. April 25, 1913.

9832.—Charles Harrison. Hinged seats for theatres, music halls, and the like places. April 26, 1913.

9850.—Donald Willson Player. Exhibition of moving pictures. April 26, 1913.

9,962.—Carl George Rodeck. Amusement devices. April 28.

9,966.—Thomas Tudor Griffiths. Receptacle for hats adapted to seats. April 28.

9,974.—Henry John Herbert Fisher. Vibration actuated advertising apparatus. April 28.

9,980.—Albert Ernest Turnham. Apparatus for the display of announcements and the like. April 23.

10,001. George William Wright. Apparatus for use in viewing (and for obviating the eye strain caused by viewing) cinematograph picture entertainments and the like. April 28.

10,030.—Richard Edwin Davis. Apparatus for holding hats on the underside of seats as used in theatres and the like. April 29.

10,084.—Sidney Charles Harper and Frank Bracebridge Mills. Apparatus for issuing and registering tickets or tokens. April 29.

10,121. Marian Truswell. Dancing shoe for toe-dancing. April 30.

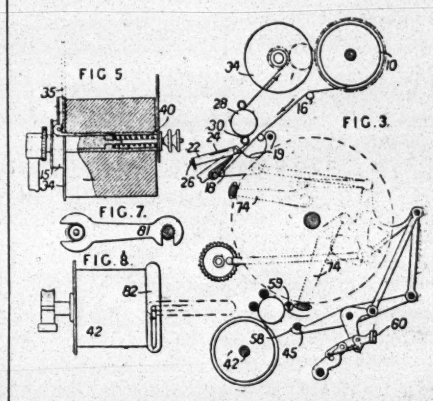
SPECIFICATIONS PUBLISHED THIS WEEK.

16765.—Cook. Keyboard controlled electric textile illuminated signs for advertising and the like.

15,796. Ogden. Roundabouts.

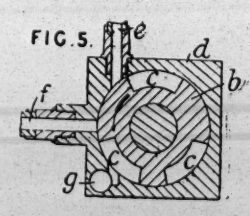
LATEST PUBLISHED ABSTRACT.

Cash Registers (452).—Relates to recording-apparatus for cash registers particularly of the kind which records paid-in, purchase, and change amounts. The type sectors are arranged to print all their figures in line with the signs — and = in position. The paper for the record passes from a supply roll 10 over a guide 16 and rocking platen 18 between a spiked roller 28 and grooved roller 30 and on to a take-up roll 34. The spindles of the supply and take-up rolls are positively geared together, and the take-up roll is friction-geared by means of a disc 15½, Fig. 5, and spring 40 to the spindle so as to allow the necessary variation of feed, the paper being maintained taut. The end of the paper is attached by a slot and pivoted bar 35, which has a cam end acting against the spring desk 15¼. For maintaining



the rolls on the spindles, a key 81, Fig. 7, is employed, and for a voucher roll a simple slotted bar 82, Fig. 8. The paper passing over the outer surface of the platen 18 is exhibited to view through a glass 24, and an aperture is provided through which a note may be written on the record strip. The glass is held in a pivoted frame 22 made with a spring catch 26 to engage slotted ends on the frame 19. A voucher strip is fed from a supply roll 42 by similar spiked and grooved rollers and is printed on by a second platen 45, the frame of which carries on edge 58 for cutting the voucher against a fixed knife 59. The platens are linked up with inkling-levers 74 and with a voucher-gripping lever 60, which is operated by the linkage as shown to receive and present the voucher.—A. P. Japy.

Theatrical Appliances. (1,135). A. H. Moorhouse. In an apparatus for producing various sound effects for theatrical and like purposes, the devices for producing the different sounds are actuated by compressed air, and the controlling means are so constructed that the operator may be situated at a distance from the apparatus itself. The flow of air to the sound-producing devices is controlled by cocks arranged as a keyboard, and a valve is placed between each cock and the sound-producing device. This valve consists of a disk *b*, Fig. 5, having one or more grooves *c* in its surface and mounted to rotate in a casing *d*. The casing has a compressed air inlet *e*, compressed air outlet *f*, and an exhaust *g*. The disk is rotated in the direction shown by the arrow, and when the cock is operated to admit air, a spring



plunger or the like connected to the outlet *f* is alternately connected to the air supply and to the exhaust, and a bell, say, near which the plunger is placed receives a succession of blows. Thus for producing the sound of a peal of bells, a series of disks is mounted on the same shaft and in one or separate casings. The disks and the grooves in them are so positioned relatively to one another that the hammers or the like striking the bells are operated in succession. Instead of employing seperate disks they may be replaced by a cylinder with the grooves formed in its surface. The keyboard may be placed at a distance from the apparatus and each cock connected to its particular valve by a tube. For producing the sound of a motor-car, a reciprocating piston is connected to a metal plate which it causes to vibrate. Similarly, a drumskin on which pellets are placed is vibrated to imitate the sound of water falling. A piston is attached to two hinged cup-like members, which it causes to separate and come together to imitate the sound of a horse galloping. The rate of reciprocation of the vibrating piston is controlled by a rheostat connected with the driving-motor.

Printed copies of the published specification can be obtained from Messrs. Rayner and Co. at the price of 1s.

At the Treorchy Pavilion this week the Four Rays, speciality dancers; Zenora, equilibrist and dancer; and Chorley and Connor, comedians and dancers, are appearing.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTES WANTING ENGAGEMENTS And MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTES.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS) ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Word, One Penny.

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"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each additional word, One Penny.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E.,
Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 6, 13, 20, Feb. 2, 9, 16, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.,
June 2, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
May 26, Aug. 11 18, 25, Oct. 13, 20, 27, Nov. 10, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Nov. 24, Dec. 8, Feb. 2, 9, 23, March 16, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Dec. 15.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 8, 22, Nov. 24, Dec. 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
May 26, Aug. 11, 18 25, Sept. 22, Oct. 13, 20, 27, Nov. 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 11, 25, Sept. 1, 22, Oct. 27, Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 2, July 7. 14, 21, Aug. 4, Sept. 15, 22, 29, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company for Dalston Theatre, June 2.
Huddersfield, May 26.
Reading, May 26.
Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions. Aug. 4, 11, and few Autumn vacancies. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow." "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Gipsy Love," &c., &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
The Most Charming Theatre on South Coast.
Seating capacity over 1,000.
Holding £120 at ordinary prices.
Open all the year round.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 19, June 16, Oct. 6, 27, and on. with exceptions.
Re dates, apply Jay and Mann.
Other coms., W. R. Wallis, Manager.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only for County Theatre, Bedford.
Aug. 4, 18, 25, Sept. 8.
Grand Theatre, Luton.
Aug. 4, 11, Sept. 22, Oct. 6.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for May 19. Wire or write. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, May 19 (oblige Geo. Street), June 2 on (exceptions)
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for August Bank Holiday (first vacancy), Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 15, 22. Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 24. J. E. Bull, above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee, Lieut.-Col. Winstanley.
Bookings, first three nights of each week.
WANTED, Companies, May 19, onwards.
All communications re dates,
Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-st., S.W.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 1, Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3, 17, and Dec. 8, on, with exceptions.
Bookings include:—"Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Glad Eye," "Chocolate Soldier," "Milestones," "Count of Luxembourg," "Hindle Wakes," "Butterfly on the Wheel," and "The Quaker Girl."
Address, Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telephone, 1456 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Nocabdis-Ox-London."

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME, LTD. BURTON-ON-TRENT.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Companies.
This Theatre has now been taken over by a local company,
and is doing big business.
Thoroughly done up,
new dressing-rooms,
and quite up to date.
All communications to
the Manager.
Telegrams, "Hippodrome, Burton."

LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
WANTED, offers for high-class stock season, June, July.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

FULHAM THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, twice-nightly Attractions, May 19, June 2, onwards.
Opens twice nightly, May 12, with "Flag Lieutenant."
Re dates, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

SCARBOROUGH GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies (Musical preferred) or Variety Combinations, June 16, 23, and 30.
Apply, William Peacock, Theatre, Harrogate.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for June 2 and 9, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 27, Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and 15.
Wanted, First-class Pantomime, three or four weeks Christmas. J. Chas. Imeson.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. WANTED,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. STAR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ATTRACTIONS
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. THE
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ——
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant, Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 15, 22, Oct. 20, Nov. 3, 17, 24, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Spring Vacancies.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Spring Vacancies.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Spring Vacancies.

Wanted, Large Theatre to produce "Cinderella" Pantomime next Season.
Wanted, to Let, on Royalty, for Stock Season or Tour, several Important Dramas, including "The Prairie Flower," "Our British Empire," &c., &c.
All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 4, 11, 25, Sept. 15, 29, Oct. 6, on, with exceptions. Bookings for spring, 1913, include: "Brewster's Millions," "The Queen Mother," F. R. Benson Co., "The Arcadians," "Babes in the Wood," "Cinderella," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Silver King," "Man and Superman," "The Girl in the Train," "The Speckled Band," "Hindle Wakes," and "The Count of Luxembourg." Applications for dates, Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN.
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19 (?), 26 (?),
O.H., BELFAST
May 26.
O.H., CORK, May 19, Aug. 4, 11
G. T., SWANSEA, June 16, 23, 30, July 7.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, July 2.
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH.
P.P.T., BRIGHTON.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON, Sept. 1, Nov. 17.
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices.
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, for weeks of
June 16 and July 7.
June 16 and July 7.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

KELLY'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, for weeks of
June 9 and 23.
June 9 and 23.
June 9 and 23.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly, Birkenhead.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, Liverpool.
WANTED, High-class Attraction for May 26.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal,
Birkenhead.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, Good Attractions, July 7, 21, and August 25, 26, 27.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, SALTBURN, and THE GRAND, FILEY.
Wanted, First-class Attractions for remaining open dates, July and August.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Wanted, First-class Companies, Aug. 11 (3 nights), Aug. 25, Sept. 1, Oct. 27.

All communications,
W. Payne Seddon, 10-11, Jermyn-st., London, S.W.
Telegrams, 'Sedonitic, Piccy, London."
Telephone, Gerrard 6534.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

WANTED, first-class Attractions for Sept. 1, 8, 15, 28, Oct. 20.
Next season's bookings include:
"Gipsy Love," "Oh! oh! Delphine,"
"The Girl in the Taxi," "Milestones,"
"Princess Caprice," The O'Mara Opera Co.,
"Hindle Wakes" (third visit), &c., &c.
Address, Charles Revill, T.R., Stockport.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE.
Once or Twice Nightly.
July 14, Aug. 25, Sept. 1, Oct. 27, Nov. 10, 17. Dec. 1. Now booking 1914.
CROMER TOWN HALL THEATRE.
July 21, 24, Aug. 6, 15, 27, Sept. 1, 4, 8, 11, all two or three nights, with Hunstanton to precede or follow.
TENBY ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE.
Aug. 7, 21, 25, 28.
Three Nights or Weekly.
Apply, Baring Bros., Cheltenham.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Nov. 3.
To oblige Manager by transferring.
J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED First-class Companies, for several excellent dates, at the Theatre Royal, Bolton.
The acknowledged premier number two town in the Kingdom. None but first-class shows need write.
J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, from July 28 to Sept. 8, inclusive, also Sept. 29, Oct. 6 and 13, Nov. 10, 17, and 24. Wire, or write, Horner, Burnley.

LYCEUM THEATRE, DUMFRIES.
WANTED, Autumn Dates, three nights each, Aug. 21. Sept. 22, Oct. 23, Nov. 20, Dec. 8, for comedy, drama (not melodrama), musical comedy.
John Darlison, manager.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Companies for July 17 (?), Aug. 25, Sept. 1, 8, 15, Oct. 6, 13 (?), Dec. 1, 8, 15. Copy of bill and particulars to J. H. Curry, as above.

CONGLETON PICTURE PALACE.
The Popular Place of Entertainment.
WANTED, First-class Theatricals. Variety Combinations and Humorous Concert Parties, from July 14, onwards, on sharing terms.
Apply, Baring Bros., Cheltenham.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, June 30, July 7.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Company
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W.
June 23, July, onwards.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W.
Twice nightly. May 19, June 2 onwards.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
May 26, June 9, 16, 23 (3), 30, July 7.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
June 2, 16, 26 (3), July 14, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
June 12 (3), July 7, 24 (3).
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
May 26, Aug. 28 (3), Sept. 8.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
May 19, 26, June 2, onwards, and autumn.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.
WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays,
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON.
May 19.
BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
July 14, 21, 28.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions
Theatre Royal, Swansea.
Apply, William Coutts,
Theatre Royal, Swansea.

REPERTORY THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
June 9, June 9, June 9.
First-class plays and comedies only considered.
Also June 23 vacant.
Wire or write to Mr. Basil Dean, Manager.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
(No Dramas.) Sept. 1, Oct. 13, 27, Nov. 24,
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Aug. 4, 11, 18, Sept. 15, 22.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER.
Aug. 11, 25, Sept. 8, 15, Oct. 13.
Stanley Rogers,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 23, 30, July 14, Aug. 4.
Percy Hutchison, 4, Finchley-road.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Company, May 26.
Jno. R. Huddlestone, General-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic, Musical, Vaudeville Combinations, &c., immediate dates and onwards. Address, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Aug. 11, 18, 25,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Jas. Kiddie, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attractions, June 9, 23, 30, and on, with exceptions. Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, June 23, for Musical or other High-class Attraction.
Wm. Morton.

STANLEY DURHAM, ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Attractions, May 19, Aug. 11, and on, with exceptions.
All coms., Mark H. Lindon.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, Wanted, Big Attractions, July 7, 14 (?), 24.
Aug. 4, 5, 6 (?)
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, Manager.

WANTED. First-class Attractions, June 2, King's, Glasgow;
and June 9, Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Apply, G. T. Minshull, Lyceum T., Edinburgh.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for May 19, June 23, and onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

QUEEN'S THEATRE (DUBLIN), LTD.
WANTED, First-class Dramas for the following dates:
June 23 30, July 7, 14, Aug. 4 onwards, with exceptions.
Re dates, address, Harry J. Baynton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Sept. 1, 8, 15, 20, Oct. 6, Nov. 10, 24.
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
E. L. Garside, Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
"A CIGARETTE MAKER'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Immediate and Future Dates.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Wanted, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 27, and on.
Also Xmas and New Year.
J. Forbes Knowles, Palace Theatre, Newcastle.

"IN A MAN'S POWER."
or
"NICK CARTER IN SOCIETY."
WANTED, May 26, June 9, July 21, and Aug. 4.
J. Forbes Knowles, Palace Theatre, Newcastle.

"JELF'S."
The Successful Comedy from Wyndham's Theatre.
Entire production carried. Bookings include: Grand, Hull; T.R., Portsmouth; O.H., Blackpool; W.P., Brighton; D.P., Eastbourne, &c.
WANTED, May 19, 26, June 2, 30, July 7, 14.
Wire or write,
Leighton,
Londesboro' Theatre, Scarboro'.

HERBERT FULLER'S PLAYS AND TOURS.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
WANTED, Theatres. Wire, June 2, 9, 16, 23.
Wire for June 2, 9, 16, 23.
"MOTHERLESS."
Production Monday, at Grand T., Lancaster.
June 16, 23, July 21, 28, Aug. 4(?), 11 (?), 25, &c.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26, &c. Lancs. or Yorkshire preferred. Cast of 40 to 50. Gorgeous Production.
This and next, Grand T., Lancaster.

"DOLLY DYE."
A Musical Novelty.
WANTED, May 26. Wanted.
Twice Nightly Preferred.
Dickie Clare. Wires, Theatre. Merthyr.
Letters, Metropole, Abertillery.

"THE INDIAN SCOUT."
WANTED, Aug. 4 and 25, for this Strong, Popular Success. Concludes Whit. a forty-two weeks' tour of exceptionally big business. A really great holiday attraction.
Geo. A. DeGray. To-day, Osborne, Manchester.
Next, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD COMPANIES.

The Original and Best.

A Column of Winners.

Good Wine Needs no Bush.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."

By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, BIG THEATRES,
WANTED, BIG THEATRES,
WANTED, BIG THEATRES
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
July 7.
July 7.
July 7.
Only Vacant Autumn Date,
Only Vacant Autumn Date,
Sept. 22,
Sept. 22,
Sept. 22,
The Only Autumn Date.
The Only Autumn Date.

The Ideal Twice-Nightly Attraction.

Costumes, Scenery, and General Mounting Unsurpassed.

Full London Chorus.

Musical Director.

The greatest success of the four successes advertised in this column, therefore the biggest success now on the road.

Managers at every theatre visited loud in its praise.

At no theatre visited has a manager expressed regret at booking this enormous success.

The confidence placed in a Hinton and Zillwood production by Resident Managers as a big drawing card more than justified by the returns for this show.

Booked and Re-booked at all the leading dramatic theatres.

Re Dates,
ARTHUR HINTON,
Metropole Theatre, Openshaw.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."

By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,
May 26,
May 26,
May 26,
July 7, 14, 28,
July 7, 14, 28,
July 7, 14, 28,
Aug. 4, Aug. 4, Aug. 4,
Aug. 4, Aug. 4, Aug. 4,
Aug. 4, Aug. 4, Aug. 4,
Aug. 18,
Aug. 18,
Aug. 18,
Oct. 6,
Oct. 6,
Oct. 6,
Nov. 24,
Nov. 24,
Nov. 24,
and onwards.
and onwards.
and onwards.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."

By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,
Aug. 4
Aug. 4,
Aug. 4,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."

By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Clear Stage only required.

Wanted,
Wanted,
Wanted,
Aug. 4 and 18,
Aug. 4 and 18,
Aug. 4 and 18,
Sept. 15 and 22,
Sept. 15 and 22,
Sept. 15 and 22,
Nov. 3, 10, 24,
Nov. 3, 10, 24,
Nov. 3, 10, 24,
and various onwards.
and various onwards.
and various onwards.

If you see it in an Hinton and Zillwood advert., it is so.

Re Dates,
Mr. G. MORETON WILLIAMS,
Holmdene, 3, River Bank, Hampton Court
Telephone: 1,732, Kingston-on-Thames.

THEATRES WANTED.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 18. Sept. 1, 8, 15.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece.
"MONTE CRISTO."
From the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 20. Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
"The Diver's Luck," June 23, July 21, Aug. 4.
"It's Never Too Late To Mend," June 16, July 7, 14, 21.
Andrew Emm, Empire Theatre, Holloway, N.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for this Phenomenal Attraction,
Weeks of June 23 and Aug. 18.
Weeks of June 23 and Aug. 18.
Weeks of June 23 and Aug. 18.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New T.R., Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres or Halls, July 7, on.
Big company. Full chorus.
Real negro specialities.
All the special scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
34, Queen's-road, Finsbury Park, N.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Theatres, June 16, 30, July 28, Aug. 4, 11, 28,
Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29, Oct. 13, and on.
J. Pitt Hardacre,
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
Vacant, Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 8, 29.
Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 8, 29.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
Vacant, Aug. 4, 11, Sept. 1, 15, 22.
Aug. 4, 11, Sept. 1, 15, 22.
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Aug. 18, 25, Oct. 6, 13, 20.
Fred Bulmer,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"THE DUST OF EGYPT."
Once or twice nightly.
WANTED, June 9, Aug. 4 (?), 29 (3 nights), Sept. 1. George Waters, Tyne, Newcastle.

"SILVER KING" CO.
Directors, Polini and Melford.
WANTED, Dates, Oct. 13 20, Nov. 10, Dec. 8; also Christmas Week. Dates invited for Spring, 1914. Address, G. M. Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
Entire production carried.
Twice nightly if required.
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."
From the Duke of York's Theatre.
WANTED, May 26, on (Midlands).
Ernest E. Norris,
Grand Theatre, Leeds.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
WANTED, Aug. 4, 18, Sept. 22, on, for the entire actual Kingsway Theatre Production
"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
Now in 45th week of tour.
Bookings include all leading London Suburban and Provincial Theatres.
H. V. Neilson,
Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool.

"HER SIDE OF THE HOUSE."
WANTED, July 28, Aug. 4, 25, and several later dates, for "Her Side of the House."
The original production carried.
First-class company.
Address, A. M. Loader, Aldwych Theatre, London, W.C.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, Sept. 15. 22, North, and onwards. Wanted, to Rent, a Good Provincial Theatre. Letters, Stafford, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

DOUGHTY-LESLIE REPERTORY COMPANY.

"OLIVER TWIST," &c.
WANTED, Theatres, May 26, and on.
Doughty, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
EDWARD LLOYD & CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 4, 11 (Lancs. or Yorks.), Sept. 15. 22 (North), Oct. 6 (Tyne district).
Lloyd, 7, Ashley-terrace, Weston, Bath.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, May 19. between Sheerness and the Elephant.
Horace Stanley, to-day, Imperial, Canning Town.
Next, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD & CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, July 7, Sept. 8, 22, and on.
Lloyd, 7, Ashley-terrace, Weston, Bath.

"SWEET LAVENDER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, May 19, 26, onwards.
Murray King, Coronet Theatre, W.

"HINDLE WAKES."
The Play that is Breaking Records Everywhere.
WANTED, Aug. 11, 25, and Xmas.
All applications, Edwin T. Heys,
Mile End, Stockport.

WANTED, May 19. 26 (?), June 9, 23, July 7, All South or London.
Miss Mabel Mannering in "The Liars," "Mrs. Dane's Defence," &c. Full West End company.
Millar Anderson. To-day, W.G., New Brighton.
Next week, A.T., Woolwich.

"ANN," from Criterion Theatre."
WANTED, June 16, Aug. 4, 25, Sept. 1, 8.
Haldane Crichton, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD."
WANTED, June 2, 9 for this fine play, South or Midlands. Hamilton Stewart, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Jan. 26 and Feb. 2 for "Dick Whittington." Company of forty. First-class production. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

"THOU ART THE MAN."
WANTED, Sept. 1, 8, 29, onwards.
Harold Wagner, Managers' Club, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, for "The Slave Girl," Sept. 22, Oct. 6. Business booming. Full company of sixteen. Coms., T. E. Ward, Theatre, Nuneaton.

"DAN THE OUTLAW."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction (North or Midlands), May 26, June 30. Address, Herbert Shelley, Dalston Theatre, till May 10. May 12, O.H., Cheltenham (6 nights).

"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, for this success, June 2, follow Coventry; Aug. 4, precede Bradford, Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 8, 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, few onwards. Entire production toured. Wilson Benge. To-day, T.R., Stratford, E. Monday, Court, Wigan.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES, LTD.

WANTED, Dates, for Various Attractions.
"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
June 2, 16, 30, onwards.
Magnificently Mounted.
First-class Caste.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
May 19 June 2, 9, 23, onwards.
Strong Company.
Powerful Moneymaker.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
Aug. 4, 11, 18, onwards.

Entirely New Play will be Produced
Early in June
Production Date Settled.
Vacant June 30, July 7, 21, Aug. 11, 25,
and few later.

Grand New Autumn Production
July 28.
Powerful Play
on
Startling Theme.
Address all communications re dates,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"PASSERS-BY,"
Aug. 18, Sept. 1, Oct. 6, 30 (3 nights), Nov. 3, 17
North and Midland.
"THE BALKAN PRINCESS,"
with actual London Production,
Sept. 1.
Lancs. or Yorks.
"THE ARCADIANS."
Sept. 22 (6 nights), 29 (3 nights), (South or Midlands),
Apply, Leslie Moreton,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

CECILE BARCLAY and RUPERT LISTER, in
CECILE BARCLAY and RUPERT LISTER, in
CECILE BARCLAY and RUPERT LISTER, in

"THE TURNING POINT."
"THE TURNING POINT."
"THE TURNING POINT."
"THE TURNING POINT."

(By arrangement with Sir George Alexander.)

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,

Aug. 11 (?), 18, 25,
Sept. 1, 29,
Oct. 6,
Nov. 10,
Dec. 8 (?).

May 12,
GAIETY THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Apply, Rupert Lister, Gaiety, Manchester.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
The Dramatic Attraction that "never" fails.
Wanted, June 2, 16, 23, 30, and later dates.

"AT THE MERCY OF THE MORMONS."
Playing to enormous business.
Wanted, May 26, May 26.
Wire for May 26.
June 30, July 28, Aug. 4, 11.

"THE GIRL WHO WRECKED HIS LIFE."
Another "winner."
Wanted, June 9, 16, 23, 30.

REPERTOIRE OF
POWERFUL, UP-TO-DATE DRAMAS.
"LOVE, HONOUR, AND REVENGE."
"THE BETTER LAND."
"FOR BETTER OR WORSE."
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING," &c.

Wanted, dates to follow "season" at Dundee.
Weekly bookings, Repertoire, or Stock Season.
All Scenery Carried.
Magnificent Display of Printing.
Vacant, June 9, 16, onwards.

"THE GIDDY GRASS WIDOW."
Musical Comedy shortly.

Pantomimes.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"ALADDIN."

WANTED, Theatres, Christmas onwards.
Re dates for any of above Attractions,
Address,
Fred Granville,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

MR. ESME PERCY,

MISS KIRSTEEN GRAEME,

and their Company,

including MISS DARRAGH,

in a Répertoire of Plays
by
Arthur W. Pinero,
George Bernard Shaw,
Stanley Houghton,
etc.

WANTED, August Bank Holiday,
and onwards,

with exceptions,

Address,

Jerrard Grant Allen,
7, Wellington-street,
Strand, W.C.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, the Rage of Paris."

WANTED, May 26 and June 2, to precede London.
Once or twice nightly.

Seventh year of continuous tour.

Receipts have increased nightly at Fulham.

Lole Esmond to-day, Fulham Theatre, S.W.
May 12, Palace Theatre, Scunthorpe.

Leonard and French present
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
Record business, Queen's, Leeds, last week.
Strongest all-round cast touring.
Refer Messrs. W. W. Kelly, Chas. Bush, Arthur Jefferson, John Hart, &c.

WANTED, June (South), Autumn, with exceptions,
"THE MERCILESS WORLD"
and
"A GIRL FROM ARIZONA."
To-day, T.R., Sheffield. Next, Alex., Widnes.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S COMPANY.
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
Preceded by the Powerful Dramatic Episode,
"THE OPEN QUESTION."
This Brilliant Farcical Comedy draws crowded houses everywhere.

WANTED, Known, open dates. May 19 and 26.
Adelphi Hotel, W.C.

WANTED, for "Through Death Valley." Suburban Dates, June 23, 30, July 7; or could play "The Sailor's Wedding" "The Convict's Daughter," or "The Little Prospector."
Address,
Bertram, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham.

WANTED, June 2 and 9 for "Peggy," from the Gaiety, No. 1 company: 48 strong; to follow Grand, Blackpool. Apply, Douglas Millar, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

"LADY NOGGS."
WANTED, Dates, Aug. 25, Sept. 22, Oct. 13, Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 15, onwards.
Entire production carried.
Address, Cartwright and Williams,
Comedy Theatre, London.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
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MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.

THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

North Co., vacant Aug. 11, 18, Nov. 3, Dec. 1, 8, Xmas, and New Year.

South Co., vacant Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 8, 22, Nov. 3, Xmas, and New Year.
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This play absolutely guaranteed the Finest Dressed, Mounted and best played Indian Drama on the road.

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NEW PRODUCTION.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Title to be Known Later.

Produced, Aug. 18, Junction, Manchester; with all Mr. Broadhead's Theatres to follow.

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Only vacant dates,
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Dec. 8.

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This production will be one of the finest that this firm has ever turned out.

A strong Australian Play with gorgeous Scenery and dresses.

Special Cast being engaged.

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Summer Fully Booked.
Vacant, Aug. 11, Sept. 8. Few late Autumn.
All Scenery Repainted. Special Company.

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By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

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Vacant, Aug. 11, 18 (3 nights), Sept. 1, 8, 29.

This play being sent out with all new Scenery, Costumes, Special Cast.

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By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Toured by J. Newton Cowling.

Absolutely without doubt the most Successful Drama of the Season. Doing marvellous business, whether North or South, East or West.

Refer to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead, Mr. Dan Barnard, re last few weeks.

Two Companies on Tour.

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Vacant, Aug. 11, Sept. 1, 8, 15. Only vacant dates till Xmas.

South Co.,
Vacant, Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 22,
few onwards.

PLAYS TO LET FOR STOCK.

"HER SECRET LOVER" (certain towns).

"THE POWER OF THE KING."

"WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?"

"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR,"

"A SISTER'S SIN."

All by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS,"

By Walter Howard.

Wanted, Known, anyone playing the "Fight for Life" without the permission of F. G. Kimberley will be held liable.

J. Newton Cowling's Tour.

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By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant, May 19, 26. Only vacant dates.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Good Companies do Good Business.

Vacant, July 21, 28, Aug. 25, Dec. 15.

Running Stock during Summer.

Good Plays and Good Actors Wanted.

Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays doing the Business everywhere. Refer.

Write or wire for same to
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'Phone 515.
Telegraphic address: "Drama, Wolverhampton."

THEATRES WANTED.

GORE OUSELEY'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
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Oct. 6, and various other vacancies.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
"THE CINGALEE."
June 5 (3 nights) and June 9.
Once or twice nightly.
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MADGE CRICHTON IN THE TITLE-ROLE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
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"THE GOLD DIGGERS;
OR, THE BROKEN TRAIL."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
Aug. 4 and onwards.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286. Wires, "Ouseley, London."
E. P. MORGAN, General Manager.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for
Frederic Baugh's Productions,
Dates as follows:—
Arthur Shirley's Greatest Success,
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
May 26 and on (to follow T.R., Bristol).
May 26 and on (to follow T.R., Bristol).
"THE FATAL HOUR."
"THE FATAL HOUR."
with that Celebrated Comedian,
E. D. Nicholls as Walter Wallop.
May 19 (to follow T.R., Smethwick).
May 19 (to follow T.R., Smethwick).
Also Frederic Baugh and Fred Moule's
Record Maker and Breaker,
"THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC."
"THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC."
May 19 (to follow Empire, Holloway).
May 19 (to follow Empire, Holloway).
June 2 (to follow Borough, Stratford).
June 2 (to follow Borough, Stratford).
June 23 (to follow Empire, Edmonton).
June 23 (to follow Empire, Edmonton).
This week, breaking all records for drama, week before Whit, at Elephant and Castle Theatre. Last week, same at Grand, Fulham. This is the piece that cannot do bad business. Please see these dramas before you book them.
For dates, apply
Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road.
Telegrams, "Artency Ox. London."
'Phone, Regent 1480.
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Frederic Baugh,
Sadler's Wells Theatre, London, E.C.
Telegrams, "Stageyness, London."
'Phone, Central 5890.

Mr. Brandon Thomas's London Company.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
Sept. 15 (Scotland),
Sept. 29 (North),
Oct. 13 and 27 (North).
Address, Cecil Barth, County Theatre, Reading.

"TANTRUMS."
Direct from the Criterion Theatre.
WANTED, Oct. 20 and Nov. 3, to precede and follow Eastbourne. July 28, precede Aberystwyth. No August vacancies. Vyvian Thomas, 36, Gloucester-street, Brighton.

ARTISTES WANTED.

TWICE NIGHTLY STOCK SEASONS.

Rehearse, May 19. Open May 26.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines; must be thoroughly experienced; good study, steadiness, and strict attention to business absolutely essential.

Give two weeks' addresses and state where can be seen playing.

Address, with lowest terms, height, age, and enclose photo and reference (envelopes marked "Stock").
M. Montgomery,
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Young Lady, to take Leading Part in New and Original Musical Sketch,
"A VIOLINIST'S DREAM."
One who can play the violin, not necessarily professionally. Bright and clever duologue. Communications with Author and Composer direct. Immediate production. Salary, £5 per week. Premium required. Highest references. Age, photo (stamp for return), etc.
Address, in first instance, Box 4,710, "The Era."

WANTED, Emotional Leading Lady; rehearse next week, Manchester. Terms, particulars, Fred Granville. To-day, Palace, Preston. Next, Junction, Manchester.

"THE COTTON SPINNER."
Summer Tour, June 2.
WANTED, Star Actress (mostly twice-nightly theatres). Photographs and full particulars, E. Vivian Edmonds. To-day, T.R., Oldham; next, T.R., York.

WANTED, Child Actress, for special week May 14, autumn tour to follow if satisfactory. Send age, height, terms, references, and latest photo, to
H. Mitchell,
Electric Theatre, Falkirk, N.B.

WANTED, Child Actress over 14; exact age, height, photos, lowest terms. J. Forbes Knowles, Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Singing Juvenile Leading Man for autumn tour. Photos, terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Lady Dancer, capable of training children and possibly arranging ballets, for provincial engagement starting in December. Photos, terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, rehearse May 20, Character Comedy Actor for Toto, "King of Crime," for twice-nightly stock; also first-class leading Juvenile Actor; long engagement to right man. Photos and all particulars to T. E. Ward, T., Nuneaton.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
Stock and Tours.
WANTED, sound, reliable Artistes in all lines for Summer and Autumn. Full particulars, Fred Granville,
The Depository, Cazneau-st., Liverpool.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Shinton's Repertory Season, King's Theatre, Gateshead.
WANTED, Juvenile Gent., capable of other lines, and to assist management for twice-nightly stock. Must dress well. Photos, full particulars, references, and lowest summer terms, to John B. Shinton.

WANTED, at once, Ladies and Gentlemen, who can sing, dance, and play the piano; also good Principals for Pantomime. Lestocq and Parson, 1, Durham House-street, Strand.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Character Actor; must have good modern wardrobe; Young Actor for A.S.M., and parts. Call, Monday, 12 noon. Millar Anderson, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

WANTED, Amateur Lady or Gent.; small capital; new production.
Write L., 80, High-street, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Lessons in Singing, Pianoforte, Accompaniment, Coaching, Musical Comedy, &c.; evening lessons given; rapid progress assured; many years' varied experience; pupils visited. M. Taylor, 18, Foley-street, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by Constance Dana, Society Entertainer, Costume, Char., Sketches, Stories, Children Imitations, now dis. 41, Chepstow-place, W.

WANTED, Known, William D. Vincent, Tenor, at liberty, Aug. 10 to 30. All coms., "Loretto," Englewood-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, Pantomime Artistes for next Christmas. Photos, terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED Two Principal Boys, Second Boy, Good Sisters, Knockabout Comedians, for Pantomime. State where can be seen working, absolute lowest terms, in first instance, to Harry Kenyon, Vaudeville Agent, 11 Park-st., Bolton.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Practical Man, with complete knowledge of Illuminated Fountain effects. Apply, J. D. Hart, 56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Well-Known Manager wishes to hear from Dramatist of repute who is willing to write a drama upon suggested subject. As business is meant, it is requested that only those who are acknowledged playwrights and have plays now on the road will reply. Box No. 4,705, "The Era."

ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
WESTLAND-ROW, DUBLIN.

WANTED, Known, the Governors are prepared to entertain applications for the Position of a Senior Professor of the Singing Classes in the Academy. The appointment to take effect as from Sept. 20, 1913. Applications, by letter only, to be addressed to the Secretary.
By Order,
C. E. GRAHAME-HARVEY,
Secretary.

WANTED, Known, the Advertiser, perhaps one of the best-known and most versatile Society Entertainers in London, is anxious to meet with an Entrepreneur who knows the ground, and would be willing to undertake the entire management of a tour through either Canada, the States, or India, on sharing terms.
Address, in first instance,
D., Flat 2, 150, Portsdown-road, London, W.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
WANTED, Acting-Manager; twice nightly drama and varieties; knowledge of bar trade; state age, height, references, and salary required, enclose photo. Address, T. Allan Edwardes, Temple House, Derby.

WANTED, an Agent to introduce Pupils for Stage Dancing, Singing, and Music; good percentage. Academy, Box 4,612, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Man as a Working Foreman for a South Coast town. Apply, Willing, Brighton, stating age, salary, and references.

WANTED, Position of Manager or Assistant Manager, cinema, theatre, varieties, exhibition, or pier pavilion, by gentleman of experience; used to organisation, staff control, correspondence, and accounts; fluent French; at liberty; moderate salary. Letters to Manager, 21, Woodland-road, Upper Norwood, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty May 19, for Management of Music Hall, Theatre, or first-class Picture Palace; thoroughly acquainted with the market value of all recognised acts in vaudeville and every attraction on the road that hits the public eye. Expert judge of films and understands every detail of hiring or buying; great organiser, brilliant advertiser, with novel and brainy ideas; a commercial man and a showman, a rare combination. Concludes four years of management with Messrs. Weisker Bros., Liverpool. Magnificent testimonials; guarantee to any amount. Address, Mr. Harry Barclay, Liverpool-road, Huyton, near Liverpool.

WANTED, Position as Manager of Variety Hall; thoroughly experienced in every way; bars, advertising, booking, &c.; good recommendations; age 30; smart appearance. Box 4,704, "The Era."

WANTED, Poet, Acting-Manager or Assistant; typist; some experience. Box 4,693, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, Good Address, Old Public School and 'Varsity Man, Appointment, London Theatre, Music Hall, or Agency; thoroughly experienced, Business, Stage, Advertising, and Press Management, accountancy and secretarial work. Box 4,559, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, at once, Musical Director, used to quick twice-nightly Variety; must have first-class library.
W. T. Simmons, Managing Director.

WANTED, Solo Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contrabassists, to register for Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black's Orchestras (Atlantic Liners, Picture, and First-class Hotels).
Applicants required to attend audition in Liverpool or London. State age, experience, and give two responsible references for personal character. Apply by letter, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Lady Violinists, 'Cellists, and Pianists, for High-class Tea Lounges. Permanent engagements commencing May and June. Thorough orchestral experience necessary. Agents need not apply. Send full particulars of experience, and photo if possible, to Musical-Director, Messrs. Bobby and Co., Ltd., Margate.

WANTED, Violin (Leader); used to Varieties; open Monday. Terms for three shows day to Farini, Palace Theatre of Varieties, Redcar.

WANTED, Cornet; join at once; terms, shares; permanency; uniform provided; must be sober and reliable. Barber, Town Band, Falmouth.

WANTED, First Cornet; open at once; young and attentive to business; portable. Messrs. Johnson Brothers, Theatre, Leominster.

WANTED, for Royal East Kent Mounted Rifles Permanent Band B flat Clarinet; also E flat Doubling Viola; good weekly wage to suitable men. Apply, with references, to Bandmaster Blake, Headquarters, Canterbury.

WINDERMERE STEAM YACHTS AND LAKESIDE PAVILION ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, reliable Clarinet and Bass, open Monday till Sept. 20. Lowest terms, age, height, refs., Bateson, Windermere.

WANTED, Solo Clarinet and Trombone to combine Euphonium for String Orchestra from June 1 to end of Sept.; terms, 30s.; state age and experience. Conductor, 10, Cavendish-road, Herne Bay.

WANTED, for Redcar and Saltburn, Season Military Band; 1st Clarinet, 1st Trombone, BB flat Bombardon (instrument provided if necessary). Twice daily (including Sundays) from July 7 to Sept. 7. Lowest terms and references to
G. B. Robinson,
Bandmaster, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Solo Euphonium Performer, Ayr Municipal Band; season May 26 to Sept. 6; one performance daily, except Sunday; thorough knowledge of Boosey's and Hawke's Military Journals necessary. Terms, £2 2s. per week. Apply stating references, to Bandmaster, L. Worthington, Ayr, Scotland.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, 'Cello, for amateur orchestra, London; clerical or other employment found.—Apply, stating age and qualifications, to Box 4,692, "The Era."

WANTED, a First-class Experienced Orchestral and Solo 'Cellist for long engagement; latest references; good salary. Apply, Gold, Musical Director, Woodville-road, Bexhill.

WANTED, 'Cellist and Pianist (ladies) for Hydro, seaside; four months, open May 26; send photo and refs. Address, Box 4,714, "The Era."

WANTED, for Hotel, Lady 'Cellist, Vocalist preferred; must play solos; also Organist. Dorothea Vincent, Palace Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, Piccolo, Solo, B flat Clarinet, and Drums for Pitching in West End. (Terms, shares.) Others can write. Summer engagement to follow. Bandmaster, 77, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Boy or Girl Pianists (good learners considered), for high-class musical turn, playing all big journals; practice daily; also taught Saxophone properly; live in; stage costumes and instruments provided; all travelling expenses paid; parents communicate; all other instruments, also vocalists required; rehearse and start now. Send photos, if possible. Address, John Goodliffe, 11, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, First-class Drummer, with all effects, May 19, week; permanency for one willing to work effects for Picture Palace. State salary, particulars, to Manager, Goldsmith-st., Picture Palace, Nottingham.

WANTED, Ladies' Quartette for Hotel, June to September. Full particulars and lowest fees to Box 4,707, "The Era."

WANTED, Banjoist; young man, smart appearance, good reader; good permanent job for suitable man. Box 4,711, "The Era."

WANTED, for end of May, a Small Orchestra. State lowest terms. Giant Wright, 118, High-street West, Sunderland.

WANTED, Good Military Instrumentalists, July 7, East Coast; age, refs., and lowest; 5 hours daily, Sunday 2 hours. Conductor, 19, Division-street, Sheffield.

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' UNION.
WANTED, Musicians, Before Accepting Engagements at Nelson (Lancs.), and Rotherham (Yorks), to apply to W. H. Lowkes, 4, Seafield-road New Ferry, Cheshire; and J. Parker, 51, Josephine-road, Rotherham, respectively.
J. B. Williams,
General Secretary.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting engagements at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Whitley Bay, and Tynemouth, to communicate with A. Stuart, 35, Grainger-st. East, Newcastle-on-Tyne; South Shields and North Shields, W. Ellis, 48, Mowbray-rd., S. Shields; Roker and Sunderland, J. Murgatroyd, 103, Ward-st., Sunderland.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director, Violinist; extensive Continental repertoire; young and good address; touring with famous ladies' orchestra (costumed). Agents and Managers Note: Disengaged soon. Offers, Jonsoni, Exhibition, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, Musical-Director, Piano or Violin, with extensive library; strictly steady and reliable; highest refs.; good appearance; age 29. Terms, £3. Wire best offer. Smith, 11, Richmond Park-road, Richmond.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Musical Director in good variety hall (baton), or violin; highest references; good library; at liberty May 26, through closing. Thos. Richardson, Conductor, Hippodrome, Paisley.

WANTED, Known, Robert Allington, Musical-Director, Piano, Violin, at liberty. 9, Clapton-square-mansions, London, N.E.

WANTED, by well-known Musical-Director and Composer, Engag. for Orchestra of 4 upwards; good Standard Repertoire; thoroughly experienced musicians; offers invited. Terms, Box 4,715, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by a thoroughly sound Musical Director; 12 years' experience; extensive library; highest credentials. Box 4,712, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director (piano and 'cello) desires Change; var., pic., drama; highest credentials; fine repertoire; season or perm. Box 4,694, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor-Violinist, or good engagement as Violinist. Thistlewood, 91, Ryland-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, a Musician of large experience in Orchestral, Chamber Music, and Solo Playing, of good appearance, wishes to Deputise or accept Engagements during the months of July and August, either as Solo Violinist (on Tour) or Leader or First Violin in good orchestra. Advertiser is also a capable Piano-Accompanist. Highest references. Communications to be addressed to Box 4,703, "The Era."

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, Edgar Thorpe, Leader (3 years), Royal Bath Hotel Orchestra, Bournemouth. Address, c/o Signor Meo, 95, Old Christchurch-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, First Violin, Disengaged May 14; used pictures, varieties, and liner bands; combine viola; Poole's references, others. Highfield, Exhibition, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, Engagement, by good First Violin; thoroughly experienced; late leader first-class Cinema. F. Harris, 11, Bentinck-st., S.W.

WANTED an Engagement, by well-known brilliant Solo Violinist, with small or large orchestra; extensive and up-to-date repertoire. Box 4,697, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Disengaged, Lady Violinist; experienced; good sight reader.
Box 4,700, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by first-class Violinist (seaside preferred); thoroughly experienced orchestra and solo business; ex. testimonials. W. H., 1, Modred-street, Prince's Park, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement; solo or 1st Cornet; experienced any business; 3 years' Continental experience; disengaged May 5; first-class references. (North preferred.) Cornettist, The Ferns, Consett.

WANTED, Engagements by First-class Cornetist (lady); brilliant soloist. Miss Adeline Parkyn, 9, Lanark Mansions, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet; any bus.; first-class refs. (North preferred). Box 4,695, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet with Military Band, from Whitsun onward. Particulars to Cornet, 52, Fortunegate-road, Willesden, N.W.

WANTED, by Good Solo Cornet, Engagement, Summer Season; or Theatre; steady and reliable; would accept 2nd in first-class orchestra. Address, W. Kaye, 4, Yews-terrace, Lockwood, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Known, T. O. Nolan, Solo Cornet and Trumpet, at lib. May 26 (closing). Ex Orches. and Mil. Opera House, Belfast.

WANTED, by Cornet and Clarinet, Engagement; summer; through closing. Offers to Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, young and steady, good exp., both Variety and Dramatic; disengaged Monday, May 19. J. H. Sampson, Cornet, Grand T., Rhyl, North Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, Known, experienced Cornetist, any business; liberty through closing. Sober, reliable; any distance. Wire, or write, Cornetist, Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Cornetist, at liberty; young, reliable; just finished touring with H. Scott's Septette. Apply, Will A. Lee, North-avenue, Greenfield, near Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Cornetist, at liberty; reliable; any business. W. E. Shaw, Cornet, 144, High-street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, by F. Horn, Summer Engagement or permanency. Orchestra preferred. A. Spencer, 34, Meeching-road, Newhaven, Sussex.

WANTED, Engagement, by steady and reliable Clarinet; any business; good refs. Apply, W. Ventress, The Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement by Clar., any Business. Sober and reliable. Good references. Address, Box 4,709, "The Era."

WANTED, Clarinet, good experience, Varieties and Pictures; good references; South Coast preferred. F. Cooper, 2, Grove Houses, Dover-rd., Folkestone.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarinet; any business; reliable; excellent refs. Clarinet, 24, Edgcumbe-place, Millbridge, Devonport.

WANTED, by Steady and Reliable Clarinet, Summer Season or Permanency; can open immediately; good refs. Clarinet, 21, Crompton-street, Derby.

WANTED, Engagement by String Bass (four strings); season or permanent. Basso, 49, Kenilar-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED Engagement, Good Tenor Trombone; experienced in Military and Orchestral business; able to double on viola. Box 4,713, "The Era."

WANTED, by the 'Cello Solo of Carl Rosa Opera Co., a summer season. At liberty from Sunday, May 11. Address, P. Burvenich, Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Gent., 'Cellist, in Picture Orchestra or Trio; afternoons only. Balls excepted. Child, 22, Duncan-terrace, Islington, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola; could combine Trombone; excellent testimonials; experienced Opera, Drama, and Variety. Viola, 21. Montague-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, by Oboe Player, lately at Prince of Wales' Theatre, Manchester, Engagement. Scott, 38, Shepherd's Bush-road, London, W.

WANTED, by First-class Oboeist, re-engagement in Variety, Orchestra, or Military; abstainer; excellent credentials. Chapness, 1, Somerleyton-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, as Flute and Piccolo; experienced in first-class music. Also Solos, high and flat pitch instruments. Address, A. Sladdin, Brighouse, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement by Flute and Piccolo; well up in Variety and Musical Comedy; steady and reliable. Hyde, 18, Lycons-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, Good Flute and Piccolo, Engagement or Deputising; London or South of England; good refs. Flautist, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement by Reliable Flautist; experienced in Concert, Theatre, and Variety; age 29; good refs. A. Schmitt, The Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute (Piccolo Soloist); Seaside Season; London Orchestra; Military String; reliable; any business. Musicus, 59, Cleveland-gardens, Barnes, London.

WANTED, Known, Harpist, Brilliant Soloist, at Liberty Summer. Maud Estlin Grundy, 78, Parkhill-road, Hampstead. 'Phone, 167 Hampstead.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Orchestral Pianist, Engagement with concert orchestra; brilliant soloist and expert accompanist (both vocal and instrumental); highest references from recent engagements. Musicus, 117, Wellesley-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Lady Pianist Disengaged, just concluded long engagement; season or permanent; good references. Box 4,696, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist or Pianist-Conductor; large library; excellent references. Wire, Pianist, Alhambra, Sandgate, to-day; after, 8, Hope-place, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Young Lady Pianist; experienced in orchestra, pictures; first-rate leader and brilliant soloist; free now. Box 4,698, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement in London, first-class Pianist; long experience in small Orchestra. Alec E. Turner, 627, Romford-road, Manor Park, Essex.

WANTED, Situation as Picture Pianist (sight reader). F. H. P., Farm, New Bridge-road, Hull.

WANTED, by Drummer, Tympanist, Glockenspiel, Xylophone, Church Chimes, Tubaphone, &c.; high-class refs. Wire, Box 4,520, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Smart Double Drummer, Tymps., &c.; experienced; any business; at liberty, May 24. Address, Theodore Gordon, 100, Worthing-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, Mme. Walter can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players.
46, Fitzroy-street, W.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Mme. Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone, 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Dorothea A. Vincent's Royal Cremona Ladies' Orchestra, from three to forty performers, in uniform. Dorothea A. Vincent, Palace T., Luton. 'Phone, 443 Luton.

WANTED, by First-class Ladies' Trio, now in West End Hotel, Summer Engagement; up-to-date repertoire, solos, &c. Apply, Box 4,701, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

YARMOUTH HIPPODROME.

WANTED, for the Summer Season, A good Clown and August, Riders, Performing Animals, and a good Equestrian Manager.

Apply,
Geo. Gilbert, Albert-square, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Novelties for Mr. K. Bysack's Hippodrome Circus, and Menagerie, touring the Far East. Twelve months' engagement to suitable artistes. Must be versatile. Useful family write, S. O. Abell, 1, Cunnington-street, Chiswick, London.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Rosa Montero, First-class High School and Buck Jumping Horse Rider, also Trick Horses, Performer at liberty to accept engagements to ride or perform horses for home or abroad. Address, c/o Mrs. Hill, High-street, Cinderford, Glos.

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Open all the year round.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Strong Tops for May 26 and onwards.
Share or Certainty.
Nothing Too Big.
Artistes engaged for next week please note rehearsal is called for 12 noon, owing to "Nature's Zoo" matinée.
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WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

WANTED, Star Variety Artistes, Monday, on. Specialities, Comedians, Comediennes, and Dancers. Full particulars, first letter, lithos, &c., PICKARD, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Tops, shares or salary, Artistes all lines, May 19, onwards. Can offer 10 weeks, journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

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WANTED, for May 19 and 26, Big Dramatic Sketches, with sensational or novel finish; Big Singing and Dancing Troupes, Spectacular Productions of every description; Big Comedy Acts and Daring or Sensational Specialities. In fact, anything calculated to set the town talking. Always vacancies for Novelties of every description Address, with lowest terms, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

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WANTED, for the above theatres, for May 26 and dates in June, Drawing Star Attractions, on sharing terms, with or without own complete companies. Must have good printing. Address, T. Alan Edwardes, Grand Theatre, Derby.

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ROYAL MAGNETS.
WANTED, Artistes, all lines. State when last in Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen. Commencing June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, July 7, August onwards.
Long and comfortable engagements to suitable acts.
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Palace, Maidstone.

HARRY ROXBURY'S COS.
WANTED, Artists in all lines, May 19 and 26, for Pentre and Pontypridd; also June 9, Salford. Particulars and absolute lowest terms to Argyle, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, Big Specialities, Big Specialities, for Manchester, Buxton, Llandudno, &c. May 19, onwards. Terms, Bookings, Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Acts of Every Description for Electra Playhouse, Evesham, May 19, 26, June 30, July 7, 21, onwards. Stage 12 feet deep, 14 foot opening, 12 feet to flies. Address, McAskell's Agency, as above.

WANTED, Monday, Big Speciality Act, also Acts of Every Kind for immediate dates, wanted for big open air fêtes, August, novelties of all kinds. Dudley Harcourt, 5, Western Mail chambers, Cardiff.

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WANTED, Star Top Liners, Big Specialities, Big Drawing Novelties.
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Being residential office, interviews by appointment only.
LES GEORGES wire address immediately.

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Wire to-day, Dooner's Cinema, Brynmawr.
Letters to the principal agents, or Stuart Cleveland, Empire, Portsmouth.

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An acknowledged success wherever played. Five people. Twenty minutes. Complete production travelled.
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ALFRED WELLESLEY
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"UNCLE'S COURTSHIP."
Three Artistes. Runs 18 minutes.
Booked by Moss, Stoll, V.T.C., Syndicate, L.T.V., &c.
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May 19, Hippo., Portsmouth.

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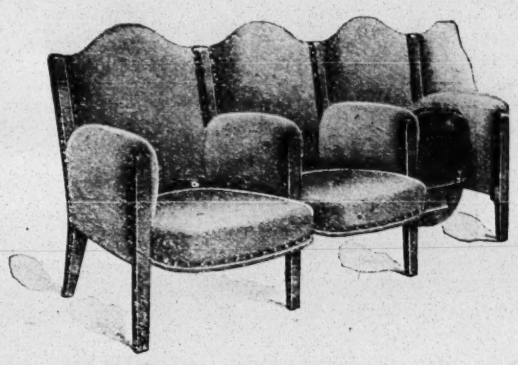

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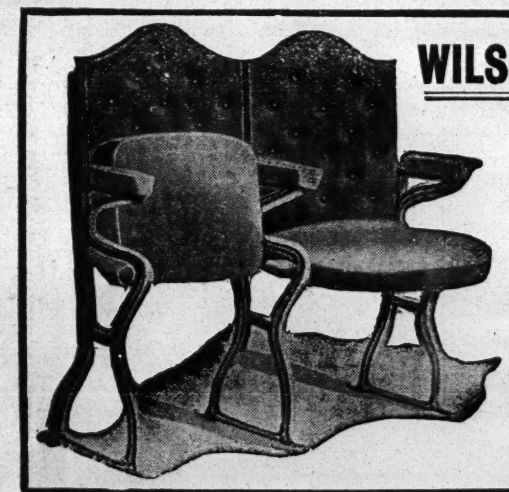

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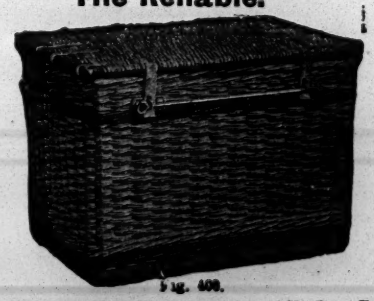

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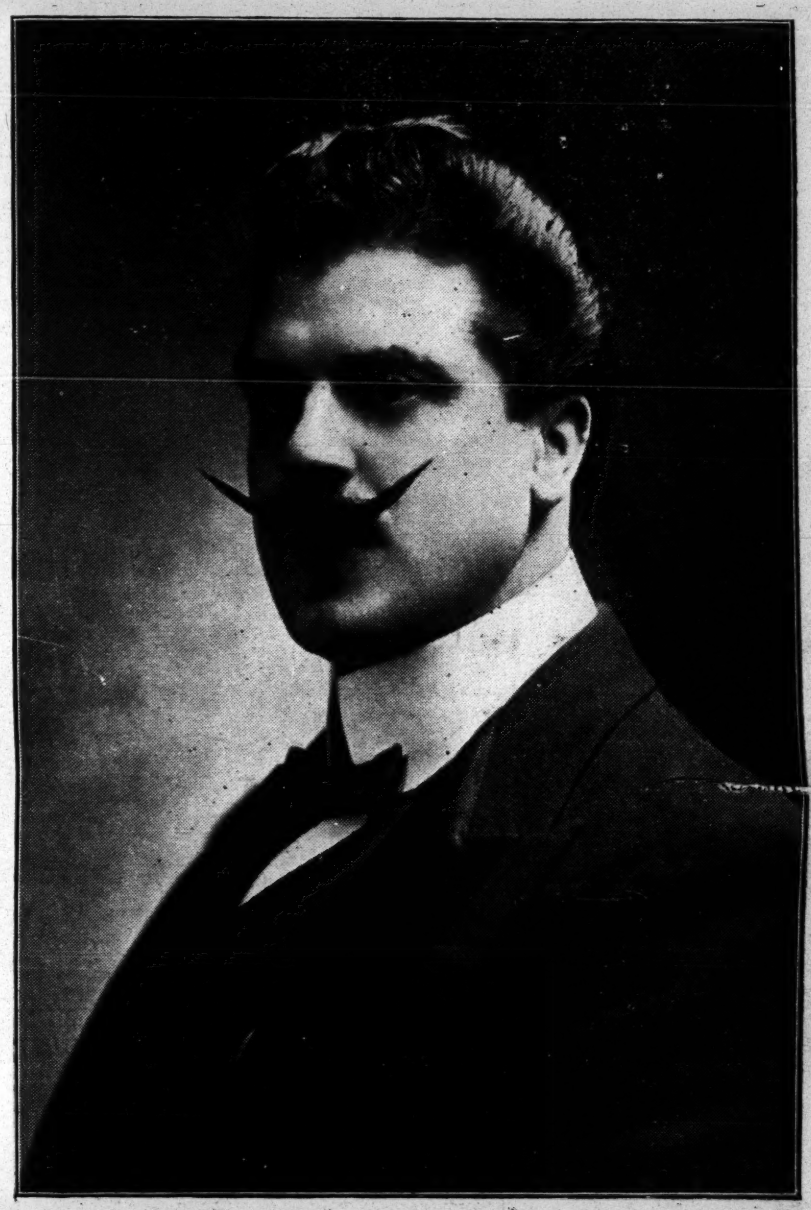

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Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Lily Langtry, Rex Fox, John & Lillian Grand, Dale & O'Malley, Marie Kendall, Ernest Shand, Bioscope, Harry Bedford, Steve McCarthy, Harry May Hemsley.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Cissie Thompson, Harry Fields, Will H. Fox, Flo Irwin & Co., Woodward's Seals, Bioscope, Johnson & Bert, Louie Tracy.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Vincent Kelway, Bert Evans, Shaw & Winder, Pictures.

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Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

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Kitty Clinton, Paris Trio, Harry Webber, Liane D'Eve, Bransby Williams, Bioscope, Little Ganty, Wilson & Waring, Wheller & Wilson.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Gwennie Llewellyn, Peterman's Band, Marie Kay, Hamlyn & Mack, Carlisle & Wellman, George Carney, Bioscope, Keen & Waller, Victor Travers.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Sisters Finney, Three Alverettas, "What a Dog," Albert Bruno & Co., Cummiger & Collona, Alfredo, Kalma & Co.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Cavalli, Edwin Lawrence, Flo Esdaile, &c.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Arthur Woodville, The Westwoods, Karl & Eddie, Harold Baker, The Harlequinaders, Frank Hartley, The Falcons.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

King & Gordon, Fred Lloyd, Pictures, Blanche Erard, The Schmettars, Four Netherlands, Will Sullivan, Ruby Norton, Lillian French.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Vera Wooton, Pictures, Lupino Lane, Dot Hardy, Olga Du Barrie, The Northcotes, Cole & Rags, Harry Purdon.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Stock Company.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Picture Entertainment, Illustrated Songs, &c.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Elstres, Musical Middies, Emeric & Ainsley, Pictures.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"Her Wedding Day."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

MR. FRANK ALLEN (Managing Director), MR. ERNEST WIGHTON (Booking Manager), MR. N. PALLISTER (Business Manager), can be seen by appointment, and MR. A. DE COURVILLE (Assistant to the Managing Director) can be seen by appointment on all matters connected with the booking of the London Hippodrome.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Head Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen (the Managing Director) or Mr. N. Pallister (the Business Manager), otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, May 12, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12
Wilkie Bard, Harry Tate & Co., Neil Kenyon, Tom Clare, Four Royal Scots, La Belle Linda, Cinquevalli, Arthur Leslie, Mlle. Denarber, Chas. Whittle, Cissie Curlette, Chas. Danvers Co., including Rutland Barrington, Phil Kauffmann, Broughton and Creedon, The Fitzroys.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12
Harry Lauder, Marie Lloyd, Alfred Lester, Elton and Edwin, Footgers, Mary Law, Merry Macs, Will Garvey, Hope Charteris, Von Hampton & Josselyn, Four Elles, Standish Sisters.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12
Wilkie Bard, Alexander's Rag-time Band, Texas Tommy Dancers, A. W. Baskcomb & Co., The McNaughtons, Ernie Mayne, Ritter and Foster, Fred Land, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Alec Kendal, Richard Wally, Cullen and Carthy, The Dardinis, Fitzgerald, and Seven Juggling Girls, Six Roma Girls.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45
Marie Lloyd, Joe Peterman's Co., "Seaside Revue," Barney Murphy, Sisters O'Connor, Sterling and Love, May Mars, Richard Wally and Page, Rosie Archer, A. W. Bascombe & Co., Mileri and Landino, Sisters Standish, David Poole, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12
Harry Tate & Co., Graham's Marionettes, George Sheldon & Co., Conway George, Alice Craven, Rokby, Dora Hawtrey, Kolt Wania Quartette, Fred Camplin, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12
Harry Lauder, The Craggs, Harry Randall, Kendrick and Laura, May Mars, Mileri and Landino, Bell and Butt, David Poole, Ernie Mayne, Mary Law, Murphy and Mack, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12
Alfred Lester and Co., Texas Tommy Dancers, Cinquevalli, Alice Craven, Corman's Juveniles, Max Carl, Aubrey Fitzgerald and Co., Eugene Damond, Maud Edwardes, Cullen and Carthy, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12
Herbert Lloyd Minstrels, Jan Rudenyi and Co., Four Richardinis, Bert Danson, F. V. St. Clair, Ted Gill, Thorne and Leopold, Rosy Pink, Maud Tiffany, Radford and Valentine, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1
Chas. T. Aldrich, Billy Merson's Co., Olga Gregg and Sheffield, Les Andres, Dolly Lee, Rowlands Ford, The Masques, Jenny Hartley, Sisters Cora, Tom Clare, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2
The Mississippi Minstrels, W. Billy Merson's Sketch, "Roma...," Sable Fern & Co., Archie Pitt, Evelyn Taylor, Rowlands and Ford, Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12
Percy Honri and Co., Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Leo Dryden, Broughton & Creedon, Kioto & Copeland, Alexandra Dagmar, Four Sydney Girls, Syd Walker & Co., Chas. Whittle, Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1
The Athlones, D'Vorak Family, Will Nosam, Lily Burnand, James Fawn, Clifton and Collins, The Mellons, W. H. Kuming, Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

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Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR MAY 12, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
"Sumurun," Albert Chevalier, Marie Studholme, John Harrison, Marie Novello, Belloni's Cockatoos, Richardson Taylor, Edith Fink, Kinemacolor.
Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Clarice Mayne, Gobert Belling, Manzoni, George French, Celia Storm, Lotto, Lilo and Otto, Margaret Moffat & Co. in "Billie's First Love," Vera Moore, Bioscope.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Beaumont Collins & Co. in "The Leaves of Memory," Gilday and Fox, Little Freddie Hackin, Folly Bask, Heeley and Meeley, Drawee, Hambo and Frisco, Jennie Johns, Peterman's "Seaside Review," Harry Ford, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Molly Drew, "Ragmania," Arthur Prince, Willard Hutchinson, Fred Elton, Scamp and Scamp, Dion Wade, Alberta Flahey, Jack Thomas, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Mme. Lydia Yavorska & Co. in "Lolotte," Neil Kenyon, Oswald Williams, Elliott-Savonas, Cole de Losse, Larry Lewis, Elise Marpass, Violet Stockelle, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
"Nevada," Queenie Leighton, Jack Pleasants, Cooper and Lait, Lucille Benstead, Bert Harrow, Baron's Menagerie, Fred Russell, The McLeans, Charles Erard, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
"Mexico," Three Rascals, Kara, Daras, Five Petleys, Chiti, Minnie Love, Bioscope.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
The Pekin Mysteries, Jackson and McLaren, Chas. Torfay, Phil Ray, Carter Livesey, Columbia Trio, Lily Shaw, Nell Derry, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Captains Wood and Green, Mlle. Roshanara, Mlle. Sara Melita, The Three Wolkens, Pipifax and Panlo, Herbert Clifton, Doreen and Ivy Aderdare, Bioscope.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Mme. B. Rasimi's Revue "J'Adore Ca," Maud Lagny, Mignon, Dormeuil, Selection, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
George Formby, Bros. Pedersen, Nikita's Trained Roosters, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Frank and Vesta Thorpe and Coe, Geni Family, Jane Ayr, Woodhouse and Wells, Bioscope.

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.
Pictures.

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM EMPIRE.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and piano part for harp.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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To make room for my New Big Autumn and Christmas Acts, I have for sale six complete Pantomimes.

These Pantos. are complete in every detail, each with Gorgeous Costumes for forty Artistes, and ready, with trifling outlay, for the Road.

Used last season, short runs only, at Principal Halls and Theatres.

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A merry wave of incidents, washing up the humorous side of everything you see at the Seaside

SCENE 1—The Promenade
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Introducing the Lifeboat Crew, the Naval Cadets, Lockhart's Lassies, The Seaside Courtship, Fortune Telling, Mixed Bathing, the Flappers, the Pierrots, the Mayor and Town Council, the Band, the Diggers, etc.
Book by Loedian Stanley. Lyrics by Frank Loedian. Costumes by Charleses. Scenery by Francis Bell. Bathing Costumes and Gowns by Selfridges, Ltd. Produced by Joe Peterman.

Expensive Engagement of the Great Scotch Comedian **SANDY McNAB** And his Company, in a Rattling New Screamer **KING PHAROAH**

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Telegraphic Address: "Broadheads, Manchester." Telephone: 5928 & 5929 City Manchester.

Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the hours of 11 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 12, 1913.

ASHTON—NEW PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Three Cecil Girls, Pictures. Matinees Monday, Tuesday and Saturday, 2.30.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—EMPIRE HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Madame and Victor André, Bert Eden, Wee Josie, Shaw, Billy Simpson, Sable Three and Searle, Talbot and Pearce, Harry Roxbury.

BURY - HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Jock Whiteford, Pictures, George Whitby, Ellerslie Pyne, Agnes Tina, Thomas and Taylor, Hesseys, Tom E. Hughes.

ECCLES - CROWN THEATRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Leolin, Pictures.

LIVERPOOL — PAVILION THEATRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Vasco, Morny Cash, George Bass, Alexander and Bertie, Kate and Tom Major, Ada Fawn, Tiny Arnold, Clarke's Crazy Comedy Cyclists, Three Buckleys.

MANCHESTER - HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Hamamura Family, Harry Halsey, H. O. Wills, Bob and Jennie Leonard, Gladys Wise, A. C. Astor, Bart and Bart, Hasholl and Serpell, Five Broadway Belles.

MANCHESTER—JUNCTION THEATRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
"The Girl Who Wrecked His Life."

MANCHESTER — KING'S THEATRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
"The Boy Detective"

MANCHESTER—METROPOLE THEATRE.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"Allah's Orchard." Matinée Monday, 2.30.

MANCHESTER.—OSBORNE THEATRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
"Only an Artist's Model."

MANCHESTER—QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno's "Wakes Week" and "The Bailiff," Billy Rhodes, Herd and Gard, Bernard, Little Cluley, John F. Traynor & Co.

MORECAMBE—WINTER GARDENS.
Rehearsal at 10.30 a.m. for:—
Leslie Bros., Burns and Bentley, Penman and Miller, Tim Carlisle, Three Stowe Bros., Alice Edwards, Milly and Gordon Trio, Olitzka Madison, Archie Glen, Eight Stella Girls, Theo Carly's Dogs.

PRESTON—HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Seven Bramusas, Sharpe and Turek, Who Is He?, Oakes Duo, Kathi Gultini, Piquo, Lillian Carter, Little Sadie, Arthur White & Co. Matinée Monday, 2.30.

PRESTON—PALACE THEATRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Harold Raynor and Repertoire Company.

SALFORD - HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"The Prairie Outlaw." Matinees Monday and Tuesday, 2.30.

These calls are communicated by the Management for the information of artistes "without prejudice."

MISS MARIE LLOYD.
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New Songs and Dresses on her return to town.

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MISS LOUIE TRACY.
The Dapper Dandy Boy.
May 5, Empire, Swansea (sharing middle).
May 12, EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
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The incomparable Character Comedy Artiste,
MILLIE PAYNE.
Empire, Chatham. This week making enormous success in her "Miss Malaprop" character, with original patter written by Miss Payne. Many thanks to Mr. Alfred Wareing, of Theatre Royal, Glasgow, who offered Miss Payne a principal part on the legitimate stage through this clever number. May 12, REGENT, SALFORD (third return).

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Previous to opening,
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The charming songstress.—Vide Press.
FLORENCE KENDALL.
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This week, SAVOY, GLASGOW.
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May 26, Tivoli, Aberdeen.
June 23, Tivoli, Hull.
Vacant dates, June 2, 9, 16 and 30.
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the charming young Violinist and Vocalist, is having great success this week, Wood Green Empire.
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